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I TELL YOU TO SEND THAT MESSAGE! MILVILLE'S THANKSGIVING.

BY ALICE TURNER.

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'WAS the week before Thanksgiving, but to even a stranger there yould have seemed to be something the matter in Millville. There were knots of villagers and workmen on the streets, and for the first time since it was built, fifteen years ago, the humming machinery of the great screw factory, stretching along the Connecticut River, was silent, and from the huge chimney rose no smoke. The workmen at Marston's were on a strike!

It was a hard position for the Company's manager, John Scoville. He liked the men, yet he realized that the company had been running the mills without profit for months, and that owing to overproduction it was impossible to grant the advance in wages asked for by the employes. John Scoville was an athletic, clearheaded man, with a face that indicated a nature equal to contest. Millville was his home. The river had been his fishing ground as a boy. The faces of many of the men were familiar to him from boyhood. He had worked his way up among them and they valued him; yet his influence had not been sufficient to prevent the trouble that now confronted the inhabitants of the little village.

John Scoville felt that it was unduly hard on



BELOW SHE COL O HEAR THE RUSHING WATER

and he had looked forhe now held ward to the time when his position would justify him in asking Hyde to be his wife. Jennie

She was the telegraph operator at Millville; they had been playmates in childhood and, for several years, lovers.

The stoppage of the mills meant that

their marriage must be postponed. Therefore John hoped against hope that the strike might in some way be averted. The men had asked for better terms and the Company's final answer had not yet been received.

Some of the hot-blooded strikers had threatened to burn the mills, but the wiser men had so far held them in check. Scoville had reported matters very fully to the Company, also that there was some danger of violence, both to the works and to himself and the little knot of trusty men who still remained with him.

proper .protection

for the works and

a prompt answer

to the demands of

the men; but

the answer

had not yet

come. He had

been notified

to report at

movement

any

once

works.

factory door was

closed and locked

after him, as he

danger for her than for people," Jennie answer

Scoville looked at her in surprise. He did not know that Jennie had always been jealous of his admiration for Miss Davis and that now his evident anxiety for the latter's safety angered her. Just as he was about to ask her for a word of explanation they heard someone running down the platform.

Scoville sprang to the door. It was the man he had been expecting.

"They're going to fight," said the man. "The ugly ones mean business. You must get help at once."

John rapidly wrote a dispatch at the coun- that she had violated the trust placed in herter. "Hurry this, Jennie," he said, shoving it that the man she loved was in great dangerin. Then turning to the man, "I'll wait here for an answer to this. Go back and tell the men inside to stand by the mill, and I'll be with you He had been promised again in a few minutes."

The man hurried off while John turned again to the counter. To his surprise the dispatch still lay where he had left it. "Haven't you sent this?" he asked.

'No," she answered. "For heaven's sake hurry;

everything depends on it. Send it at once," he cried angrily. "I wont," she answered.

Scoville looked at her in astonishment. He could not realize that she was in earnest. "Jennie, this is no time for joking. That dispatch must

go." He spoke slowly. There was no sign of yielding about the girl as she stood there sullen and defiant; and John Scoville realized that she

did not mean to send the message.

"I beg of you to send that dispatch. Jennie. The lives of men you have known all your life depend on that message. What reason have you for refusing? Think what an attack on the mills means! It he finished, angrily.

"Ask Lillian Davis to send it, since it is for asked the men to be patient, but he did not her sake you want to prevent trouble," she answored.

> Before he could make any reply, a man threw open the door. "Jim said I'd find you here," he said, excitedly. "There's surely going to be a fight, sir. The strikers are a hundred to ten, and they're coming for the mill. They swear they'll not leave a stone of it standing.'

> "I shall hold those works," said Scoville with determination, "against any odds."

> "It'll be ten to one," answered the man 'Look, there's the fust of 'em," and going to the door Scoville saw several little groups of men sauntering down the street. He also noticed that some carried guns.

> "Come on," said Scoville, and without a word to the girl behind the counter, the two men stole quietly down a side street in the direction of the mill.

> Jennie had heard the conversation and the possible results of her silly anger now occurred to her. She had forgotten her jealousy; she re membered only that she had failed in her duty,

ed sharp THERE'S GOING TO BE A FIGHT!

danger that her folly had made more imminent. "John," she cried after him, but he was far

out of hearing. Was it too late to call for assistance? She hurried to her instrument, but it was dumb! She tried repeatedly to send Scoville's message, but soon realized that the wires must have been cut.

When she discovered this, Jennie Hyde for the moment forgot her own fear and unhappiness, and gave her mind to the problem before her. She realized that she had but little time, but she was determined to bring help to Scoville, whose peril she had so increased. It must be done! she said to herself, but how? There was but one way; one chance.

"The cut cannot be far off," she thought, and loosening the instrument from the table on which it stood, she took it under her arm and hurried out of the station. She ran rapidly up the railroad track. All her senses seemed sharpened by the situation and its perils. Down the road she saw the men, still sauntering along towards the works. She realized that it meant the worst.

The beautiful Connecticut valley was not a fitting scene for violent deeds. The range of hills crowned with evergreens, the broad blue river winding its peaceful way through the little town of prosperous homes, seemed the very opposite to scenes of terror or warfare.

Keeping her eye on the telegraph wire Jennie hurried on. The track ran along the side of the hills, well above the river. Down below, at the river's brink she could see the factory, and men closing the heavy shutters, as if preparing for a desperate struggle. Still she hurried on, until the track turned and went across



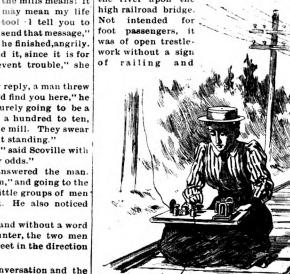
ATTENTIVELY LISTENED TO.

came out and walked up the street. He had think it wise to speak with them further in regard to the situation, and the men now thought he was against them.

The village street presented an unusual appearance of quiet. As Scoville walked along toward the railway station he met a Miss Davis. a young lady who had been visiting in the town and toward whom Scoville had been attracted by her bright manner and pretty face. He now spoke with her and telling her of the strike,

advised her to remain within doors

In the station, behind the counter which made her office, he found Jennie Hyde. She already knew of the strike, and John asked her to call the operator in the city as he might want to send a message to the Company's office. 'My assistant will be up here in a few minutes to notify me how things are," he said, as Jennie told him that the line was all right. "What a pretty girl that Miss Davis is," he continued. "I am glad, though, I cautioned her to go





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floored only by the railroad ties. To cross it she must step from tie to tie across the gaps that yawned between. Never before had she thought it possible that she could cross that bridge, but now she must. She did not falter. Far below she could hear the rushing water, but not looking down, she went bravely on until the opposite side was reached, and within a few rods of the bridge, hanging from a pole she found the broken end of the telegraph wire. She was trembling with fear and excitement, as she caught the wire and skillfully made the connections. With the instrument on her lap and the ground wire buried by her side she began to call the city operator. The instrument worked. Her trained ear told her the connections were unbroken. Pulling the blank from her pocket, she sent John's dispatch as rapidly as possible. Then she waited for the reply. She dared not leave the instrument, yet she longed to know how things were in the village. At last she left her post and hurried down the track. Looking down to the opposite bank of the river she could see the factory and the gathering workmen in the mill-yard, but they seemed to be orderly so far, and there was no disturbance. Then she ran to her instrument and waited. The suspense was maddening. Half a dozen times the impulse to get back to the village almost conquered her, but she overcame her fears and waited on.

Finally the message came. "If John only knew," she thought, as she read it from the clicking instrument, and writing down the answer rapidly upon the back of John's message, she began her return journey.

She was tired and frightened, but she made quick time over the dangerous bridge and down the long line of track. Suddenly she heard the report of a gun, and looking down, she could see the strikers hastily gathering in front of the mills. Shouts and yells rent the air. She scrambled down the railroad embankment and was soon in the midst of the uproar. "Let me pass, please," she called. "I have a message."

Instinctively the man gave way and made a passa

message."
Instinctively the man gave way and made a passage through the mob for her.

and these mills will drop to pieces. Your homes will go with the mill. You will have to leave them and take your chances among strangers. Stand by the mill now, and when better times come you will share in them."

Jennie's voice faltered, the men cheered her, and began to saunter out of the yard. One of the leaders announced that the United Order of Strikers would meet at the hall that afternoon at three, and in a little while the streets took on their usual appearance.

John Scoville read the message Jennie handed him; it ran: "Millville may sink, we can't pay what the men ask. If they ruin the mill they will ruin themselves with it."

"I thought it wouldn't do to give them'that message," faltered Jennie. "You see the wire was cut, John, and I had to cross the High Bridge before I could send your message."

"Over High Bridge," repeated Scoville, in astonishment. "Well, Jennie, I guess you've saved the mills after all, though I thought you had ruined them and me with them."

The morning before Thanksgiving the whistle of Marston's Mills was again heard, and the men returned to their work.

"The company means all right, after all," one of the men was heard so say. "They sort of explained everything to us by telegraph, and so we're goin' to see 'em through."

It was a time of real Thanksgiving in the little town. The strike was already a thing of the past, and as the happy families gathered about their well-spread tables on Thanksgiving Day the chief topic of conversation was the wedding that was to take place that night, when Jennie Hyde would become Mrs. Scoville.

A Little Gold Mine in Every Home.

One dark, stormy November night, nearly a dozen years ago, two vessels collided off the coast of Maine. One was from Bath, bound for Philadelphia, laden with iron ore, and the other, from Philadelphia, bound for Bath also with a cargo of iron ore. Both sank. Two men only, of the crews, escaped drowning. Life is full of just such fatal illustrations of "Carrying coals to Newcastle." In New England there are hundreds of abandoned farms, deserted not because. (particularly in these days of improved machinery and modern methods) no one could make a living from them, but on account of that strange roving propensity which moves men to seek success in far-off fields, neglecting or ignoring the opportunities which surround them at home. Prosperity is not alone to be found at a distance; it is more frequently near at hand. Opportunities are within reach of every one who will make an effort in the right direction.

A case in point is that of a West Virginia woman who wished to add to her income. She received a hint from reading an advertisement as to how she could establish a profitable business without giving up her household duties. Being a woman of ambition she promptly set to work, and in a few months had established a little home business that, without the slightest risk, was paying her a handsome profit. But the best is yet to come.

On Thanksgiving Day, just as the family were sitting down to the bountiful dinner prepared for them, a knock at the door was heard and an expressman brought in a large box. The family, full of curiosity, deserted the table to see this box opened. Mrs. Boggess, the lady in question, waited until the covers were removed and a handsome Singer Sewing Machine was shown, and then said: "This is my Oxien premium. You see I have not only made a good sum of money through acting



"It's Jennie Hyde," some one said. Her brother was one of the strikers, and a faint cheer rose from the crowd.

She hurried through them, and ran up the steps to the big platform in front of the main doors. John had opened the door for her, but she did not enter. She turned and faced the men.

steps to the big platform in front of the main doors. John had opened the door for her, but she did not enter. She turned and faced the men.

"I have a message," she said, holding the yellow paper toward the crowd, "and before reading it, I want you to listen to me." The girl's voice was clear and full as she went on, "You know me, all of you, and I think you know that the girl who was born among you, went to school with some of you, is to be trusted." The men listened attentively. "The message," called one, but she kept on. "You work hard and have earned your homes here. They are yours. Most of you have paid for them out of your earnings in this very mill. You have your meeting hall, your churches and your club house. Your children have good schools. And you have earned all this yourselves by hard labor in this very mill. Now you have asked for more pay. You want to earn more—but wait. How if you are deprived of the chance to earn anything? Think of it, men. Don't undo what you have worked to win all your lives. Some of you employ servants; you pay them all you can afford. Perhaps some of them think it's not enough and leave you. That's all right. But what if that servant takes a gun and stations herself before your house saying she will shoot your wife if she hires another, and that if she does her own work she will burn the house! How would that suityou? It's just what you are doing here. Now you have listened to me and I thank you with all my heart. Millyille is my home. I love it. Its your home too. Before the factory came the land about here was worth hardly anything. Few people lived here. The place was dead. Look at it now! How prosperous. We can keep it so, and I know you will. My message is this; your employers cam't pay more at present. It would simply mean closing the works. If you can work at the present rate, all right, they want you to. If you can't they are ruined,

as agent for the Giant Oxic Company of Augusta, Maine, but I have also secured this splendid machine as a premium."
So enthusiastic was her appreciation of her new property, that the Thanksgiving dinner was delayed while Mrs. Boggess, who lives at Fairmont, W. Va., seated herself at the machine and listened to its tuneful humming.

When the happy family finally gathered about the festive board, they all felt they had a new cause for thanksgiving in the possession of such a valuable addition to their home.

THE REASON WHY.

Few people know what the commonest names and expressions were derived from. For instance, though almost all of us have ri den over macadamized roads, how many remember that this system of laying roadbeds was named after the Scotchman, MacAdam, who first recommended it. Or that the popular thermometer, fabrenhelt, is the name of a famous German scientist who invented it, or that the word derick, a contrivance for hoisting weights, was also the name of a celebrated hangman of Tyburn prison, England, who invented it for hoisting men instead of merchandise.

of a celebrated hangman or Typurn prison, England, who invented it for hoisting men instead of merchandise.

The term lynch law, as applied to illegal and summary executions, was given to it by a certain Mr. Lynch whose prompt and effectual method of suppressing disorder and ridding the neighborhood of disreputables, though perhaps justified by the unsettled state of society in the early days of the country, should now be abandoned to the orderly course of justice and law.

Gerrymandering was first put in practice by Elbridge Gerry of Connecticut, who ingeniously manipulated and changed the boundary lines of certain voting districts as to combine them most effectively for the advantage of one political party.

"Bedlam let loose" is a favorite expression for conveying the idea of great excitement and uproar. The name "Bedlam" is derived from Bethlehem, changed in conversation first to Bethlem and finally Bedlam. This was the name of a hospital and insane asylum located in London over three hundred years ago.

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Garnett a.



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It does beat the speckled headed tramps to see the luck some people have. A gentleman by the name of the field of Shaunnessy furnishes the latest example. He resides close to the railroad crossing in Augusta and makes a living because his wife takes in washing. Well, last week he fell heir to a shower of as fine a quality of coal as ever cooked a goose or warmed the soles of weary wanderers feet. The reports are all in of this season's showers of flies, dust, grasshoppers, bugs and snakes, but a downpour of genuine anthracite coal is something distinctly new, although there have been rainmakers going through the West contracting to pull showerbaths out of the clouds at so much per bath. As might be expected, this latest phenomena attracted widespread attention, and one of the professors of Colby University was induced to make a thorough investigation of the matter from a scientific standpoint. After three days diligent research he reported that the showers of coal were due to the recent orbital proximity of Mars or some other eccentricity of the stellar system. This learned explanation would have settled the question in the minds of thinking people who believe in the inscrutable ways, and so forth, but just then the junior O'Shaunnessy, a highly observant kid of ten, came forward with a wholly different and much more plausible solution. And the way this boy accounts for the cloud-bursts of coal question but knocks the professor's theory sky-high. It seems that one day last week Mr. O'Shaunnessy was sitting in his back-yard on the bottom of an over-turned wash-tub, watching the trains go by



All of a sudden an idea struck him and he hurried across the street to the residence of an Italian nobleman who usually furnishes the babies of Augusta with organ recitals trimmed with monkey-tricks, but who at the time was laid up for repairs on account of having come in contact with a flying brick-bat while playing "Sweet Violets."

After expressing deep sympathy with his neighbor, Michael inquired:

"How much will yez lind me the loan ave yer monkey fur?"

"How much will yez lind me the loan wey for when key fur?"
"Monk catcha plenta mona," said the tune rotater. "He smart, wear clothes, take hat off, catche lot cash. What you want him for?"
"Oh." says Mike, "I loike to have him just to look at. He do remind me so ave me brother Terence. Shure he's makin' nothing whilst yer staying home Come now, I'll give yez twinty-foive cints a day fur the baste."
"All right," said the Italian and Michæl hurried home with the chattering little ape tucked under his

Proceeding to the rear of his back-yard he drove a big spike into a pole that the telegraph company had kindly planted without permission just inside his fence. To this spike—about twenty feet from the ground—he securely fastened the monkey with a yard or so of small chain; then returned to his back door and seated himself upon the wash tub, the monkey frisking around on the pole in the most comical manner.

In a few minutes a long-drawn toot-toot was heard far down the track, and presently a long coal train came into view. The red coat-tails of the agile monk instantly caught the eye of the head brakeman. He picked up a lump of coal and shied it at the inoffending ape, who instantly dodged behind the pole. That started the circus. Each brakeman on the train poured in a voiley, and soon an avalanche of anthracite whistled about the dodging monkey, who nimbly



avoided the few lumps that came anywhere near him.

The train backed, pulled and switched all the afternoon, as freight-trains always do over eity crossings.
It was side-tracked and it was uncoupled, it made
flying switches and other railroad gymnastics, but

every time it got in range the bombardment was revived.

It was the same story with every train that rumbled past—first excited exclamations, then a stray shot, and then a perfect storm of good, bad and indifferent throwing, none of which hit the monkey, few of which hit the pole but all of which went safely over into Mr. O'Shaunnessy's back-yard. Toward dusk this genial gentleman took the monkey home, and with a bland smile came back and gathered something like seven tons of coal into his wood-shed.

This athletic encouragement to brakemen continued for three days, when the Italian's curlosity led him to send his wife on a tour of investigation. Her report of the perilous position of his pet led to an abrupt termination of the contract—not, however, before O'Shaunnessy had got his winter's warmth secured

A MAN may have had the lock-jaw. vellow ianndice

fore O'Shaunnessy had got his winter's warmth secured

A MAN may have had the lock-jaw, yellow jaundice and nine-year erysipelas. He may have been born in Baltimore and otherwise so hard hit that he considered his case hopeless. Yet that man wont know what it is to stand on the very brink of despair until he has wrestled with the Baked Apple of Boston. From ple to piety, from cod-fish balls to culture, there is nothing under the broad canopy of heaven that so cleverly illustrates the yankee thrift which gave the world the wooden nutmeg, the rubber mutton-chop and the ox-liver terrapin, as this alleged article of diet.

A good many visitors to the Hub whose tastes were not sufficiently cultured to yearn for pie and beans for breakfast, have ordered the so-called apple in the belief that it was the same kind of fruit with which Adam and Eve monkeyed in the sweet pastly. But they never got far without changing their minds and ordering cod-fish balls or some other high-toned dish instead. The truth of the matter is, that this demon of the dining-room can't be eaten. It is not a product of nature at all, but simply a triumph of science which may justly take rank with the Massachusetts mushroom moulded ont of putty. At least, this is the claim of a man with an iron jaw, who recently found that the apple aforesaid is nothing more or less than a cast-off base-ball, soaked in water and smothered in syrup. According to this same authority nothing is so closely related to nine-jointed deviltry as Boston cookery, and he insists that a community that will eat pie for breakfast and roast mother turkey in July ought to be fed on the following:



Icicle Broth

FISH. Pickled Sea Urchins.

ROAST.

Mules Ears. GAME

Hot Tennis Balls-Stuffed Base Ball Clubs. COLD DISHES.

Snow Ball Salad-North Pole Chips,

VEGETABLES. Stewed Thistles-Wild Rice

DESSERT.

Hashed Rainbows-Door Jam.

BEVERAGES. Bilge Water-Salt Water.

COFFINS-MUSIC.

What came near being the saddest domestic tragedy that ever occurred in a peaceful town in Maine, happened last week.

As usual there was, of course, a woman in the case, and it is only because of the high social standing of the parties concerned that particulars of the matter have thus far falled to reach the ear of the general public.

That bloodshed and murder was averted seems almost providential and it is to be hoped that the occur rence may prove a lesson to every wife and mother to whom these presents may comegreeting.

The naked facts of

greeting.

The naked facts of the case are these:
Some two weeks ago Some two weeks ago the wife of one offoremost merchants
sent her eighteen
month's old babe to
its grandmother in a
neighboring town. She
told her husband that
the child needed a

an eighboring town. She told her husband that the child needed a change of air, but in reality—if the gossip of neighbors be believed—for the purpose of getting rid of the little one during teething season and during her husband's contemplated absence from the city. That evening the husband got home quite late, and his wife had already gone to bed. He brought with him an alarm clock, so as not to miss the train, which left at an early hour the next morning. After carefully setting it for five thirty he quietly went to bed, without disturbing his spouse.

Now whether it was the inherent cussedness which pervades all machinery, or his own inexperience is not known, but at two o'clock in the morning that clock went off.

His wife, not yet accustomed to the absence of the infant, arose at the first faint murmur, made her way drowsily in the direction of the racket and mechanically endeavared to hush what she imagined was her darling child, failing in which she picked it up in her arms, tiptoed out into the hall, where she hoped to soothe the little babelet back into slumber. By this time the clock had got well under way and struck a gait that would chase a Maine locomotive out of breath. The poor woman became half frantic. Before the horrible truth dawned upon her, the awful clatter of the infernal machine she was fondling severed the thread which held her husband's senses imprisoned in dreamland.

Springing to his feet and finding the wife of his bosom in the unknown elsewhereness, his suspicious soul cried out for blood. With a boot-jack for a weapon and guided by jealousy, love and a desire for



vengeance, he sought the villain who, as he supposed, had fractured his domestic felicity.

It was at this critical moment that the lady realized her mistake and gave a startled shrick which brought the irate husband to her side. After mutual explanations, fatal results were averted.

Mothers who are constantly palming off their weeping, teeth-developing infants upon some unfortunate relative in the selfsh belief that everybody loves other people's children as their own, should take warning.

DIAMONDS FOR BREAKFAST

is what the millions of readers of the Christmas number of COMPORT are to be treated to. In order that all may be sure to be served with this delicacy we will send the Dec. No. and also Catalogue and Premium List free to all who send 4c. to pay for the cutest and most mysterious puzzle ever gotten out. The Penny in the Slot is its name, but it's worth a dollar to have one for Christmas. We want to get our new catalogue into your hands so write now to The Publishers of COMPORT, Augusta, Maine.



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Battle of Waterloo . Anderson Beautiful Biue Danube Waltzes, Strauss Beneath the Palms, Caprice Gobbach and Carolling Birds . Ladwig Consolation . Record of Carolling Birds . Ladwig Consolation . Ladwig Consol



MY DEAR FRIENDS:
As I sit down to
talk to and with you
to-day, the same feeling comes to me which
I have so often, of being
so powerless to really
do anything for you. If
I could step in and make each one a short call, if we
eould have a little chat together, to pass away the
long hours, or I could perhaps read to you a while, or
tell you some incident of the outside world, this
would seem to do you some good, in a way. But I am
far away from all of you, and can only reach you
through the medium of the periodical and the post,
two blessings, however, which are not to be despised.
Some day, in some of God's worlds, I think that we,
too, shall have a Reunion, why not?

Now shall we have a little reading together before
we begin to talk?

"Patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet."—(Rousseau.)

"By their patience and perseverance God's children

"By their patience and perseverance God's children are truly known from hypocrites and dissemblers."—
(St. Augustine.)
"In the eyes of God
Pain may have purpose and be justified:

Put pain from out the world, what room were left For thanks to God, for love to man?

Thanks to God and love to man—from man take these away, And what is man worth?"—(Browning.) "It's good to live only a moment at a time. It isn't for you and me to lay plans; we've nothing to do but obey and to trust."—(George Bilot.)

obey and to trust."—(George Eliot.)

"Dear friends, I want to thank you so much for your kind letters, reading, etc. I am feeling better now, and think I may soon be able to sit up. I lay it all to the kind, sympathizing letters that I got; they seemed to revive me, and draw my mind away from studying on my disease. I have been confined to my bed ever since March 1889. I do appreciate the Comport, and think it is a godsend to the Shut-Ins. If any one could send me some quilt pieces, I would be very grateful.

JOSEPH B. OSBORNE, Jarrett, W. Va."

"I can say from the bottom of my heart, that this

"I can say from the bottom of my heart, that this paper is in every sense of the word, a Comport. I live in beautiful Webster City, Iowa, which has a population of about 4,000. I hardly count myself a Shut-In, except in the winter, when there are times that I am unable to get out. The Lord saw fit to afflict me when I was a tiny babe, so I have never known the Joy of walking like other people. I have an invalid chair in which I can go all over the city. I work in a printing office, and find the work very leasant. Although my health is very good, I sometime feel that my life is a blank; but then the good Loru sends some one in my way, or causes me to hear of some one (as quite often I do in the Comport) so much worse off than myself, that I feel heartily ashamed of my hard thoughts, and thank God that I am no worse. Dear friends, there is always some one who has a harder time than yourself. Think of this, pray for them.

We who are in possession of all our powers ought

We who are in possession of all our powers ought to be ashamed to be found complaining, when one whom the Father has seen fit to deprive of a great belowing, can give us such a lesson in patient endurance.

whom the Father has seen fit to deprive of a great by great, can give us such a lesson in patient endurance.

"Dear Shut-In friends, I thought Auntie was crowded for room in her Sunshine Corner, or I should have made you a visit ere this. Some of the cousins want brighter letters in the column. Yes, let us look for the bright things of life, but let us be sure that the bright things of life, but let us be sure that the prightness reflects on the faces of those about us, and not consult wholly our own wishes. I think it will help you, dear suffering ones, if you try to take an interest in others, and outside affairs, of which Comport is the window. You are tired of the scenery of the sick-room, so let your imagination wander with me, and we will take a trip through Sunny Kansas. The soil is sandy, and there is not much mud, so it does not take us long to reach the western part. The scene is one vast rolling prairie, with now and then a bare knoll of sand shining brightly in the sunlight. All along our way we scare numerous jack-rabbits out of the tall grass, and if we watch closely, a prairie wolf skulking ahead of us. On the gravel land, little towns of prairie dogs and owls dot the earth; if we pass near, the dogs will atand up on their tiny hind feet and boldly assert their prior possession. There are some very nice farm-houses, but you may see close by a dilapidated sod house, where they used to live in the early days. Every three miles we pass a district school, for Kansas has a fine educational system, one of the best in the U.S. Some of my Bosting' cousins will smile at that, but Kansas is working to give an equal chance in having a good common education. Now I expect you are all tired, so I will leave you, and some day we will go again.

"I am not a Shut-In, but I want to tell all the dear

you are all tired, so I will leave you, and some day we will go again.

"I am not a Shut-In, but I want to tell all the dear suffering ones how much I sympathize with them in their trials, and how I wish I could send a ray of light into some sad cheerless life. But how comforting it is to remember, when we are pressed down with cares, trials, and suffering, that our Heavenly Father is still watching over us, even as He knoweth the raven's cry and the sparrow's fall, and how precious that promise, 'God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that you are able.' Dear friends, think of the joy and happiness, the everlasting bliss that await us in that beautiful city 'whose builder and maker is God.' Do not think that have no trials of my own because I am blessed with health; I have suffered long and bitterly, and know how to sympathize.

For every toil a rest:
So hope, so love, so patient, bear, God doeth all things best.'

HYACINTH.''

HYACINTH."

Surely, dear friends, you cannot feel that the other cousins take no interest in you, when such kind letters are written for our corner. I think I will make room for one more this month, before passing to those who really claim this corner to be theirs.

took who really claim this corner to be theirs.

"I am glad to greet you all again, in this harvest season. As I look out over the fields of golden grain, and see the busy reapers garnering the ripened harvest, I think of the many thousand reapers whom the Lord has sent forth into His harvest to gather precious sheaves for His kingdom. My heart goes out in earnest prayer for these active and earnest workers. Yet my prayers and sympathies no less go out to you, dear ones, whom the loving Father has commanded to 'patient stand and wait.' Let not your hearts be discouraged, and think not within yourselves that you are living in vain. Your Father has a mission for you also, and you are fulfilling that mission by patiently waiting. But it is sweet to think that the weakest of you, while waiting, can pray; and what a wonderful power there is in prayer. Think of it! it moves the arm of Omnipotence. There are thousands of the waiting ones doing a blessed work for the Master to-day; and though they may never be permitted to til in 'Fields that are whitening 'neath the ripening grain, and come forth bearing golden sheaves, yet in 'those sweet fields beyond the swelling flood,' by the side of still waters, they will some day 'waik and talk forever,' with golden crowns upon their heads. So I pray, you friends.

That you may patiently strive to stand and wait, Through all the glories of the fading years; Wait till His hand shall lead you through the gate, And change your sighs to songs, your smiles to tears." I still have some good reading which I will send for postage. Will write to any Shut-In desiring it. Would like to correspond with Christian cousins. SADIE R. JOHNSON, Scarboro, Md."

"The appeal in July Comport for money to purchase an invalid lifter has met with a generous response. To all except anonymous contributions a personal acknowledgment has been sent. There is need of about twenty dollars more. The case is a very deserving one. The lady was formerly a teacher, but for twenty years has been a helpless invalid, obliged to be lifted from bed to chair. The possession of a lifter would greatly relieve the devoted sister who cares for her, and allow the invalid great comfort by allowing more frequent change of position. To all who may wish to contribute any sum, however small, the opportunity for doing a good deed In His Name is afforded. I would be pleased if the contributor who signed his not 'a miserable sinner,' would send me his or her address.

W. E. Anthony. M. D., 64 John St., Providence, R. I."

"If Auntie has space, I would like to tell of our King's Daughters plonic at the Spencer Public Park

"If Auntie has space, I would like to tell of our King's Daughters pienic at the Spencer Public Park, to which all of our Shut-In friends were invited, and many were present. It cheered our hearts to see the happy faces of those who for years had suffered pain, and had few chances of pleasure such as this day afforded. Carriages were provided to carry the guest to and from the Park. Easy chairs to rest in, and the steamer chartered for two hours on the lake, for all who wished to go. The voice of praise and prayer was heard in our midst, and many kind words spoken in His Name. It was a day long to be remembered; in bringing happiness to others we were blessed, it wish you had all been there, but we know there will be a meeting where pain and parting come not, and we can enjoy eternal happiness.

A KING'S DAUGHTER."

What a beautiful thing for the Daughters of the King to do! Surely one day you will hear the Master's voice saying, "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye did it unto Me."

ter's voice saying, "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye did it unto Me."

"I have been a subscriber to Comport over a year. I received a sample copy, and therein saw Oxien advertised. I sent and got a dollar box. At that time I was a great sufferer from rheumatism, and had been for years; there were knots raised on my arms, and I could not dress myself. When I began to take Oxien, my weight was only 116, and now I weigh 160, and although I have reached the age of 62, I am enjoying good health, and never was nearly as strong in my young days as I am now. I have such refreshing sleep now, and I am sure that this Nerve Food has helped me mentally also. Dear cousins, I believe that we can serve God in no better way than to alleviate the suffering of our fellow-creatures. I have told you how old I am, and I want you to know that 3y years of my life I have been trying to serve the Lord. Let us not weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not.

Mrs. S. I. WETZEL, Vandalia, W. Va."

I want to remind the cousins who are not Shut-Ins.

I want to remind the cousins who are not Shut-Ins, not to forget our invalid friends at Christmas, but remember them generously with gifts and letters. Search the columns of the paper for months back and let no one be passed by. In this way you will be observing our Saviour's birthday as He would have it observed.

COMFORT BIRTHDAY LIST FOR SHUT-INS.

COMFORT BIRTHDAY LIST FOR SHUT-INS.

Lagissa Robbins, Hale City, Texas, Dec. 31.

Will those of the Shut-Ins who wish to do fancy work, crocheting or knitting to sell, send their names to me with the necessary references, and I will keep a list of such names, to which I will refer those who wish to get such work done. The Editor's rules do not allow me to publish the names, as so many have asked me to do. I hope that I may be able to help some needy one in this way.

OUR OPPORTUNITIES TO DO GOOD.

Names of those needing help: Mrs. L. S. Mackey, Manning, Ohio. Joseph E. McKee, Monk, Ga., (letters also.)

Letters and reading: Sarah Johns, Manitowoc, Wisc.

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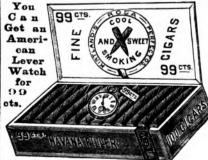
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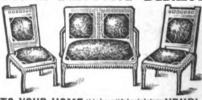






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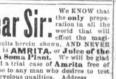
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HOW TO MAKE MONEY WITH THE CAMERA.

BY W. I. LINCOLN ADAMS. Editor of The Photographic Times.

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artist, with an artist's eye for a fine pose or a beautiful line, an artist's apprecia-

must be a picture in the artistic sense, and the fundamental rules of drawing must also apply."

This is the very secret of success in photography. Anyone can make a good technical photograph, with a little practice; but not every one can make a picture at the same time. The most successful photographers are not those who can make the best technical photographs, as a rule; but those who have cultivated the artistic feeling within them, and produce, as a consequence, the most picture seque results. This is true whether the chosen branch be portraiture or simple land-scaping.

who have cultivated the artistic feeling within them, and produce, as a consequence, the most picture seque results. This is true whether the chosen branch be portraiture or simple land-scaping.

The photograph may even be inferior as a scientific product of the chemist and optician; yet, if it possesses the charm of artistic feeling, it is sure to please. It should, therefore, be the alm of all who take up photography as a breadwinner, to cultivate the artistic sense which is inherent in all.

But the very first thing to do, of course, is to procure a camera. There is a great variety to select from. A good one will cost at least \$5.00, though they may be purchased for as little as 25 cents. I have seen excellent results from an outfit costing only \$1.00. Expensive equipments sometimes cost over \$100, and I know of one enthusiastic amateur who invested \$2,000 in his photographic outfit. But he bought many expensive lenses. He had a "Battery," as it is called, consisting of lenses of all focal lengths, so that pictures of various dimersions could be made with the same camera.

The beginner does not need any such outfit as that. A dollar camera, like the one given as a premium for a club of eight subscribers to Component, is good enough to begin with. Then, as the photographer progresses he can purchase a larger and better outfit.

On obtaining your camera read carefully the book of instructions which always accompanies it. Then set up your instrument and make a trial photograph as anyone. Your failures will help you even more than your successes. Profit by them and learn "How not to do it." Then cultivate the artistic side in the endeavor to be as successful a bread-winner as Sarony has been, and is.

The best teacher of art I know is Nature. Go into the fields and woods with your camera and photograph what you see, trying always to select the most pleasing views. Very soon you will see them instinctively, and can pick out the prettiest in secssary to have a broad expanse of country; an imposing natural phenomen

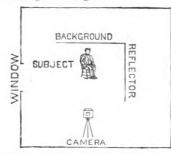
shady nook by some quiet country stream, a barnyard scene, or an old-fashioned farm-house, are just the subjects for the most pleasing photographs.

If you prefer portraiture, or have an opportunity to make the most money by that branch of photography, begin here also with nature—human nature, photograph, first, groups, the family circle, outof-doors, on the shaded porch, or at one side of the house; for groups and portraits out-of-doors are easiest to make for a beginner.

Then, by easy stages, proceed to make single portraits, carefully lighting them and posing, using an improvised studio in your own house or barn. It is not necessary to have a regular photographic studio, with top and side light, painted backgrounds, papier maché accessories and an expensive portrait lens and camera in order to make good portaits. An ordinary side light will answer very well, and a background and reflecting screen may easily be made at home. The camera which you have been using for field work will answer for the simpler forms of portraiture, though, of course, a regular portrait box and a Rapid Rectilinear Lens are great conveniences and enables one to do better work. Save your oarnings from the small camera to purchase a larger and better one as you progress in your work. You may go so far as to hire a small gallery for; the pursuit of portraiture as a business; but, in case you can not, or do not carejto do that, you may make very good portraits of your friends and neighbors in your own home.

Select a good size room with plain white walls, if possible, and one which has one or two large windows on one side of the room. If the window or windows should face the north, so much the better, as the morthern light is the evenest the year round, sun never shining from the north. If there are windows on two sides of the room, those on one side must be closed so that all the light for illuminating the subject will fall in one direction. A serviceable background may be made by stretching some dark woolen material over a clothes-hors

employed, such as we have described, the subject and apparatus is arranged somewhat as shown in the following crude diagram.



Of course no very elaborate effects can be obtained with so simple an outfit, but good portrait busts may be made. The lighting facilities are limited, and it is therefore well not to attempt too much in this direction. If the best side of your subject's face happens to be the one away from the light when posed, it may be brought into prominence by turning everything around so that the camera and background change places.

In posing the subject, and in the arrangement of the drapery and other details, there is ample room for all the artistic taste and judgment which one may possess. The photographer should seek to bring out the characteristic features and the individuality of his subjects. This he can do much better than a professional in the city, for he has the advantage of an intimate acquaintance with his subject, and knows what is characteristic in at tude and expression, and what is not. Occasionally in accessory, such as a table, may be introduced with good effect, and the real furniture of one's home will be found to photograph quite as well as the papier maché articles of a professional's studio family groups may also be photographed in this way very satisfactorily.

Such portrait negatives need not be retouched very much, if at all. The defects may easily be obliterated by the slight use of an ordinary lead pencil. Print by the favorite method, and if rignetting is resorted to at all let it be very slight, beginning a considerable distance from the head and gradually shading off into whiteness. Mount the prints on plain white cards will out gilt edges or anything to detract from the likeness itself hough a plain beveled edge will set off a picture to advantage.

I have purposely said nothing about the devel ping and printing processes, for they are fully lescribed in the instruction book which always accompanies the camera, and it is better to follow the one method described in your book. There are so many different processes, it only leads to confusion when more than one is described, so that I alway



All the trays and pans employed in the dark room should be most carefully washed after being used; and the one set apart for the "Hypo" solution should never be used for anything else.

Developing may be done in any room where the light of day can be totally excluded. As a rule, it will be found more convenient to develop at night when the kitchen, the cellar, or the barn is as good a place as any other. Of course only the rellight will be used, a "Ruby" Lantern accompanying every outfit. The printing can be done only on a oright day, though it is not necessary that the sun should be shining. The mounting and subsequent operations can be done at any time.

and subsequent operations can be done at any time.

"here are over fifty thousand men and women who are making their livings by means of the camera in this country, and a great many more thousand who are following the fascinating artscience as a pastime. There are not many photographers, however, who are as successful as Sarony, though in this profession as in all others, there is always "room on top." By persistence, industry, and conscientious endeavor, you may be another Sarony. Try it!

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ODAY we have the pleasure of announcing the award of prizes offered in the August Comfort. There is one drawback, however, to our pleasure and that is that we cannot give a prize to everyone. The award was not an easy matter, for among the thousands of letters received, coming from every State in the Union, there were many suggestions duplicated and of equal merit, while many others, although not sufficiently original to claim one of the prizes offered, yet seemed to have some special excellence. Therefore the publishers of Comfort have decided to award a supplementary list of twenty-two prizes of \$2.00 each, in addition to the four heretofore announced. And they trust that the Busy Bees will show their appreciation of this liberality by getting all their friends and neighbors to at once subscribe for Comfort, now that it is by far the best, most interesting and cheapest household journal in existence. If the Bees will act upon this hint and get up clubs the publishers will soon announce another prize competition. A large number of letters received after the date given as the close of the competition. A large number of letters received after the date given as the close of the competition. In whave not yet been opened, but will be referred to at some future time. Of those that came in season for the competition but failed to secure a prize, the best will be given from time to time in our Busy Bee columns.

The successful competitors are: Ist prize, \$10 to Mae Nevins, 6 designs, published in October No.

Busy Bee columns.

The successful competitors are:
1st prize, \$10 to Mae Nevins, 6 designs, published in October No.
2nd "\$5" "Arizona Bee."
3rd "\$5" "Juanita S."
4th "divided between Sallie B. McCoach
and Emily Taylor, \$3.00 each. This prize was
divided because the merit of both was so similar that it seemed impossible to decide between
them.

lar that it seemed impossible to decide between them.

The special prizes were given to the following contributors: Mrs. Annie Rickett, Lillian Fass, Evelyn G., Jessie Ennis, Birdie M. Williams, Ida E. Clark, Florence Wyman, Laura Bell, Millie Lewis, D. L. Rhoades, Mrs. J. H. Smith, Lou Thomas, Edna Johnson, Mrs. H. F. Hubbard, Mrs. A. M. Dee, Lucy Corbin, Mamie Parkes, Ollie Wood, Manta Cox, Mrs. S. J. Russel, "Oldtown," and Fannie Warenskjold. The latter is our youngest contributor, being only ten years old.

We feel deeply gratified by the interest shown and trust that those who failed this time

ten years old.
We feel deeply gratified by the interest shown and trust that those who failed this time will not be discouraged but try again another time.

time.

Checks have been sent to the fortunate ones, with the single exception of the Arizona Bee, who did not send her name and full address. Upon receipt of these necessary particulars she will be placed in prompt possession of her prize.

who did not send her name and full address. Upon receipt of these necessary particulars she will be placed in prompt possession of her prize.

The first prize articles were described in the October issue, so we will go on to the second, a novel and useful arrangement of cigar-boxes, making them both useful and ornameutal.

Procure 12 sheets tissue paper, 10; sandpaper, .05; furniture varnish, .05; I sheet blotting paper, .05; I roll baby ribbon, .13—.38. That is your bill. Ask any dealer for five empty cigar boxes. Scrape the paper strips from the outside, sandpaper them lightly, and give two coats of varnish with an old tooth-brush, if you have no other. Remove the paper linings, and paste on the inside of each cover a piece of blotter which will fit into the box when the cover is down. Paste by the edges two thicknesses of soft wrapping paper in the bottom of each box. Cover this with tissue paper by rubbing between the hands. Print in straggling letters with red ink on each blotter-lined cover, an appropriate motto. On the first box, letter "Excuse haste and a poor pen."

Cut a piece of blotter 1-2 inch larger than the box and paste on the bottom to serve as a blotting pad. Bore two small holes in the cover, through which draw sufficient ribbon to tie in a bow with many loops and ends, to lift the cover by. Do this with all the boxes. Confiscate father's pen, pencils, eraser, dividers, rule and pen-wiper, to lay in the box, and one gift is finished.

No. 2. Letter the motto "A stitch in time saves nine." Make a cushion of old muslin filled with sawdust, and cover with two thicknesses of crinkled paper pasted at the edges and large enough to slash into fringe all around. Fasten the cushion on the outside of cover by ribbon drawn through holes bored at the corners. Your druggist will give you some small sliding boxes, (or match boxes will do) paste one of these on the inside of cover to hold papers of needle. Needle-book, emerybag, scissors, thimble and spools laid in the box complete a gift for mother.

No. 3

pasteboard into strips the size of the end and sides of an ordinary razor strop and cover every piece with the satin, on both sides. On the darkest strip paint pale yellow primroses, on the next lighter, paint a spray of yellow jasmine, on the pale yellow, put a bunch of bullrushes and on the other paint the monogram surrounded by violets. When perfectly dry, overcast the sides and end closely together, then feather stitch over the seams with rope silk to match the satin. A bow of golden brown ribbon is tied about the handle of the strop and the case is completed.

The divided fourth prize is given to S. B. McCoach of Sistersville, West Virginia and Emily Taylor, Albany, N. Y., for the following designs: Reading Board. Take a half-inch board thirty inches long and ten wide. Round the corners and cover both sides with any kind of pretty cloth, or you can make the upper cover of plush or velvet if you want it extra nice. Put several layers of wadding between the cloth and board, put braid or ribbon one half inch around the edge. Fasten it on with fancy head tacks; put the tacks about an inch apart. Make two pockets 7 inches long and four wide, on cardboard foundation, and tack firmly at each end of the board ato hold spectacles, pencils, etc. Fasten two pieces of cord or ribbon to the upper edge of board 10 inches apart, tying them in a bow to form a loop by which the board may be hung up when not in use.

The article described by Emily Taylor seems peculiarly fitted for the comfort of an elderly person. It is a footstool made of a board 14-16 inches, heavily padded and covered with a lambswool mat. The legs are four large clothes hooks, screwed into the board and gilded, or a curtain may be fastened around the footstool.



WALL POCKET. Laura Bell.

We now give a description of the special prizes. The pretty wall pocket in the illustration is from Laura Bell, who says, "I bought a Chinese tea-tray and gilded it. Then I made the pocket by cutting a crescent the size of the tray, covering it with garnet velvet on which I worked the initials and lining it with silk to match. Where it was joined to the tray (the tray being straw I sewed it) I covered with pale ble silk cord. At the top I sewed a blue silk bow of ribbon, under which is the loop to hang up by.

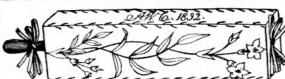
tray being straw I sewed it) I covered with pale blie silk cord. At the top I sewed a blue silk bow of ribbon, under which is the loop to hang up by.

Jennie Ennis of Trafalgar, Ind., wins a prize by a suggestion for a novel souvenir called "A young man's needlework album," and made as follows: Get a number of plain pieces of silks, satins and velvets 7x4 inches wide for the inside leaves of the album. First make the covers by covering two pieces of pasteboard 7x4 inches wide, with some bright-colored velvet for the outside and silk for the inside, having different colors for both silk and velvet. Have the velvet on the front cover worked in pretty design and bright floss, with the words "A Merry Christmas." Some nice fringe half an inch wide sewed around the edges of the backs would be very tasteful. Work three small holes in fancy stitch of different color on one end of the back (there should be no fringe on this end). Now for the inside leaves. Get from fifteen to thirty pieces of silks, satins and velvets, 4x7 inches wide, and work 3 small holes in the end of each piece with faney stitch—the holes of both backs and leaves must be arranged so that when place deals of the piece with faney stitch—the holes of both backs and leaves must be arranged so that when place deals of the back (there should be no fringe on this end). Now for the inside leaves. Get from fifteen to thirty pieces of silks, satins and velvets, 4x7 inches wide, with the words "A y inches will be directly over one another. Take a silk cord 15 inches long and lace it through the holes;



will be directly over one another. Take a silk cord 15 inches long and lace it through the holes; fasten tiny tassels at the ends and tie of the album works her name and a sentiment or quotation, if so desired, on the first leaf, and the recipient will hand it around to his woman friends to do likewise, thus making a novel autograph collection. Lillian Fass of Leeds, Mass., is one of the special prize winners. The contribution is a handsome pair of vases from a pair of mustard bottles, or any wide-mouthed bottles. or jars. First give the bottles or jars a good coat of glue or varnish; and when almost dry spread on



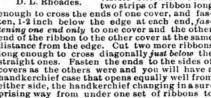


RAZOR STROP CASE. Juanita S

handsome buttons, pigs teeth, sea-shells, acorns, peach-stones, corkscrews, and any old scraps of metal; stick them on the putty while soft, and then bronze. A very attractive pair can be made by painting the vases with silver bronze; and when dry paint the articles, such as shells, buttons, acorns, bottles, stones and spoon-bowls with copper bronze.

A splasher by Birdie M. Williams of The Palms, Los Angelos Co., Calif.: Take a yard of heavy unbleached muslin or butcher's linen. Split the cloth lengthwise, making two splashers of equal size. Use the selvedge for the upper edge and fringe the sides and bottom to the depth of two inches. If you can knot the fringe, so much the better. An inch from the fringe, so much the better. An inch from the fringe on all three sides make a row of simple drawn-work about 3-4 inch wide, with red embroidery cotton. Mark on the splasher the words "Splash—Splashing—Splashed" and work in outline stitch with the red cotton.

Next on our list of specials comes Mrs. Annie Rickett of Savannah, Georgia, with an English idea called a "salivarium." It is made thus Get a box large enough to hold a cuspidore, fasten the lid with hinges, cover top and sides with dark blue or crimson cloth fastened with brass-headed tacks in small plaits to form a scant ruffle. Pad the lid with old flannel before covering. The top and edge of curtain may be embroidered if desired. This is useful in a bachelor's room and can be made available as a Milote Lewis furnishes a plan for a pretty blotter. Fold in book form two sheets of blotting, the outer one if inches long and 22 inches wide, before it is folded, the inner one two inches smaller all round. The upper side of cover is decorated with three envelopes drawn in outline with corners overlapping, the work being done with a fine brush dipped in gold paint. On the upper envelope is put the address of the person for whom the blotter is intended, a stamp is also placed in proper position upon it and a post-mark is simulated as consultance of the proper side



the other.

Our little ten year old contributor in Prairieville, Texas, sends a description of a sachetbig made in banana form. Get silk as near the color of the fruit as possible and cut in as many divisions as are in the skin, using a banana as model. Sew the seams on the wrong side, leaving one open. Through this insert cotton wadding thoroughly sprinkled with sachet powder. Close and sew neatly as possible.

Mrs. J. H. Smith of

ding thoroughly sprinkled Close and sew neatly as poMrs. J. H. Smith of Brewster, N. Y., sends an odd little match holder. Gild two clay pipes and attach to a little Japanese basket in which a small tumbler has been placed. By getting pipes with large bowls and then fastening them so the bowls turn upward they may be made to hold burnt matches, the glass in basket serving for the unused. Fasten the pipes under pretty bows of ribbon and hang by ribbon from the gas fixture.

Ida E. Clark of

stripe with fancy embroidery stitches in different colored silks, the greater the variety the prettier. On the blue stripes sew two or three silver and gilt tinsel cords. Line with pink satin, with an interlining of crinoline. Then with linen thread gather the long sides, draw each up tightly and fasten. Make a rosette of pink ribbon to put on each side and hang by another piece of the ribbon passing from one side to the other.



SCREEN. Miss Lou Thomas

Screen. Miss Lou Thomas.

A beautiful idea for a screen comes from Miss Lou Thomas of Pearsall, Texas. She says: Take four nice firm corn-stalks and cut them the desired length. Polish the stalks and paint, twining around each, a wild morning glory vine, allowing some buds to be partly open, showing the pink of the flower. These stalks form the frame of the screen. Now take cream velvet the size desired and paint on it two stalks of growing corn, one on each side, with a few sprigs of grass at the foot of each stalk. Midway between, and on a line with the base of the stalks paint a basket filled with the ears of the green corn, and let one or two be lying half cut. On the ground near the basket are three more ears, one not touched, one with the shuck a little open, and the other half shucked. Near the top of the screen and above the basket paint some lines descriptive of corn. The stalks are fastened with brass tacks at the corner. They may then be left as they are or the corners knotted with corn-colored ribbon. The body of the screen may be fastened in the frame with small tacks, but care is needed not to split the stalks. Another and cheaper screen is made on the same plan by using a kind of crash like towelling instead of velvet and working the whole thing in corn-colored silk instead of painting, tying the corners with corn-colored ribbon.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7.

Dyspepsia! New Cure!

A new and positive cure has been discovered in Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets. So great is the faith of the proprietors that it will cure any form of Dyspepsia or indigestion, that they will send a Free Trial Package to any sufferer who will send one 2c. stamp for postage. Address, F. A. STUART CO., Marshall, Mich.

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BUSY BEES.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.

A Shut-In friend, Edna Johnson of Frankfort, Ky., contributes a good suggestion for framing a small clock. From heavy pasteboard boxes cut two pieces the shape of a violin, 101-2 inches through the swell at bottom, 9 3-4 inches through swell at top, 61-4 inches at narrow part where the curves are cut. With a sharp knife cut a hole the size of clock below the middle, through both pieces. Cut a handle 9 inches long and about 11-4 inches wide of three or four thicknesses pasted together with glue. Paste the handle between the two pieces of body and glue that together. The clock is fastened by a screw or nail just above the opening, on the back, but first it must be covered after the hole is cut and the handle gilded, bronzed or painted black. Get a pretty piece of plush (about 1-2 yard) electric blue or ruby are pretty. The width of the plush does for

plush (about 1-2 yard) electric blue or ruby are pretty. The width of the plush does for the length of the violin, the body of which should be about 14 inches long. Cut a pattern out of paper the exact shape and size of the violin, with the hole; then shape the plush, only it must be larger all around by 3 inches than the pattern; cut the hole in plush so it will fit over hole in foundation. Stamp a spray of roses and daisies on the plush with the stems and a few leaves below the clock. Make the leaves of arasene or coarse chenille and the roses of three shades of pink ribbon with centres of coarse chenille in two shades of yellow. Make the daisies of white or yellow cordene. Fit your plush smoothly over the violin by sewing in long stitches from side to side on back. Cut a lining of paper cambric, turn in all around and overhand down neatly around the edge. Tie a bow of ribbon on the handle where the plush leaves off, then with narrower ribbon suspend it by tying near the end of handle and sewing at lowest extremity onto lining. Hang on two nails, one placed higher than the other.

From Mrs. A. M. Dee of McMineville, Oregon,

leaves off, then with narrower ribbon suspend it by tying near the end of handle and sewing at lowest extremity onto lining. Hang on two nails, one placed higher than the other.

From Mrs. A. M. Dee of Mc Mineville, Oregon, comes a timely hint for a bachelor's comfort. Take a heavy silk of some rich dark shade, 8 inches long 3 1-2 wide. Line with a lighter silk and bind with ribbon of same shade as outside, leaving endsat top totle. Attach two pockets, one for two spools of thread, one for needles, thimble and buttons, with drawing string in top of each pocket. Put a strap for scissors. Fill the various compartments with the necessary articles, roll up, tie and your "Bachelor's Friend" is complete.

Lucy Corbin of Columbus, Ohio, sends some excellent suggestions for the old people's com fort. For grandma she describes a shoulder cape. Cut a yoke 5 or 6 inches deep, in one piece. Any person should be able to cut the pattern of such a yoke by fitting it on her own shoulders. Cut from any suitable cloth, also a yoke bige of them of such a yoke by fitting it on her own shoulders. Cut from any suitable cloth, also a yoke by fitting it on her own shoulders. Cut from any suitable cloth, also a yoke by fitting it on her own shoulders. Cut from any suitable cloth, also a yoke by fitting it on her own shoulders. Cut from any suitable cloth, also a yoke by fitting it on her own shoulders. Cut from any suitable cloth, also a yoke by fitting it on her own shoulders. Cut from any suitable cloth, also a yoke by fitting it on her own shoulders. Cut from any suitable cloth, also a yoke by fitting it on her own shoulders. Cut from any suitable cloth, also a yoke by fitting it on her own shoulders. Cut from any suitable cloth, also a yoke by fitting it on her own shoulders. Cut from any suitable cloth, also a yoke by fitting it on her own shoulders. Cut from any suitable cloth, also a yoke by fitting it on her own shoulders. Cut from any suitable cloth, also a yoke by fitting it on her own shoulders. Cut from any suitable cloth,

sticks. Little pockets may be attached inside for buttons, etc.

Ollie Wood of Cinnaminson, N. J., sends directions for two practical articles. The first is a bed-spread made as follows: Take bolting sheeting the size you wish and make a border of paper disks (half-moons) and some simple leaf, arranging irregularly to a depth of 8 or 10 inches from the edge. Outline in colored embroidery cotton around these paper patterns, remove them, and work veins in the leaves with finer cotton of a deeper shade. Linen floss is better than cotton. Hem the spread neatly and feather-stitch. Ollie Wood's other suggestion is for a table cover. Take double width French flannel cut square. Any color can be used as best harmonizes with the other furnishings. Hem neatly and above the hem apply squares of some old-gold material in Grecian design, thus: Between the squares work spiderwebs in old gold silk.

Matilda Cox contributes directions for a blizzard cap which is surely comfortable. With

on the three sides. You will then have a cap for the most severe weather, light enough to be carried in the coat pocket ready for emergen-cies or rolled up and worn, as an ordinary cap, or worn under a hat.

or worn under a hat.

Toilet sets are not new, but Mrs. H. E. Hubbard of Verona, N. Y., sends directions that promise a particularly attractive set. Material required are plain, cream-white scrim, some of the narrowest silk ribbon and about two skeins of embroidery silk, Asiatic washable dyes. The amount of scrim and ribbon required will have to be governed by the size which your furniture requires the articles to be. First cut the three pieces of the desired size, allowing for a hem around all four sides 11-2 inches wide. Draw



VIOLIN CLOCK. Edna Johnson

out the threads and fasten the hems with hemstitching. One-half inch, toward the centre, from the hemstitching draw the threads so as to leave a space just wide enough to draw in the ribbon, which is woven up and down through the threads. Leave the ends of the ribbon long enough at the corners to tie in little bows. One-half inch in from the ribbon, draw the threads until a space 3-8 of an inch wide is formed. Thread the needle with the embroidery silk, which should match the ribbon in color, and taking three threads on the needle, make a simple drawn work stitch called back-stitch. The scrim should of course be cream white and the color chosen for the decoration should harmonize with the prevailing color in the room.

The rope scrap-basket, by an Oldtown Bee, the iswall as well.

The rope scrap-basket, by an Oldtown Bee, the jewel-case by Mrs. Bussell of Oldtown, Me., and the triplet vase by Evelyn G. of Pleasanton, Iowa, were all described in the October number.

Trusting the Bees will all be pleased with the selections, again thanking all contributors and hoping success will crown the efforts of all who undertake to make the several articles,

I remain as ever, Busy Bee,
(Care of Comfort, Augusta, Me.)

A LUCKY HIT FOR LADIES.

Mrs. Marshall Gray, Chapel St., New Haven, Conn. has discovered an article for giving a brilliant, lasting polish to tin, brass, glass, gold, silver and plated ware. Ladies send for "Facts about Kitchen Kohinoor" and coin money selling guaranteed recipe.

THE CHRYSANTHEMUM.



GHRYSanthemu m
the golden
flower-for
its name
comesfrom
the Greek
word "chrysos," gold
—furnishes a strikin g instance of
two facts.
First, that
the "fashion" changes in flowges in flowin as i w n s

CHRYS

that art can be made to assist nature. A dozen years ago the chrysanthemum was comparatively un-known in America

dozen years ago the chrysanthemum was comparatively unknown in America, the Chinese aster being the is now nearly twenty years since an Englishman named Robert Fortune saw in Japan gardens flowers of such beauty that he could hardly believe them to be highly cultivated varieties of the aster. An entusiast on flowers, he sent to his English home a number of seedlings. These attracted attention from florists and lovers of flowers very speedily, but the interest remained confined to the few for years. Gradually it spread, however. It came to America. Florists here took up the culture of chrysanthemums with eagerness, and it is safe to say that to-day the finest types of the flower are produced in our own country. New forms and colors are constantly being produced by the skill of the florist, and Dame Nature herself must lift her eyes in wonder when she sees how Art has competed with her.

The chrysanthemum is the national flower of Japan as the rose is of England, the thistle of Scotland, the shamrock of Ireland, the fleur-de-lis of France. It appears on both the personal and official crest of the Mikado. The flower alone appears on official documents and embroidered on flags and banners. The flower and leaves are seen on the personal belongings of the Mikado, and in the imperial gardens grow such wonderful chrysanthemums as were never seen elsewhere.

The English and American florists, however, as was

ings of the Mikado, and in the imperial gardens grow such wonderful chrysanthemums as were never seen elsewhere.

The English and American florists, however, as was said before, have succeeded in developing these flowers into many wonderful varieties. Among these are the incurved, those with flat petals, other varieties with petals fluted or quilled, some with long, quivering petals glossy as satin, others of heavy, velvety texture. In color there is simply no limit. Recent years have produced wonderful golden brown tints, like sunlight shining through the russet leaves of autumn foliage, crimson like the heart of a red rose, purple soft as twilight, and all radiant tones of pink and yellow. It is even probable that soon a definite, delicate blue will be obtained, as the leading florists are now experimenting with that object.

Among the most beautiful are the Black Douglas, a deep crimson that is almost black, Val d'Or, a golden yellow, Princess Meletia, a lovely blush white, Kiota, deep yellow, Lady St. Clair, pure white, the Pink Ostrich Plume and the Lillian B. Bird, a peculiarly beautiful flower of great size, pale pink in color.

The chrysanthemum is easily raised from seed. When sown in February or March the plants will attain large size and blossom profusely the following autumn. The young plants need rich soil and should be plentifully watered. Liquid manure may be applied once a week.

There are over a million chrysanthemum plants sold annually by florists and the number of cut flowers sold annually by florists and the number of the best flowers sold annually by florists and the number of the best flowers bring fifty dollars per hundred at wholesale!

Matidia Cox contributes directions for a blizzard cap which is surely comfortable. With its is surely comfortable. When som it is surely comfortable. When som it is surely comfortable. When som it is surely comfortable. When som is said is almost increase. The chord ward se

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Among other things for general thanksgiving is that the cholera failed to gain a foothold on

Do not miss Christmas Comfort and do not let any of your friends and neighbors miss it. Among other good things it will contain a thrilling detective story.

The original prize stories we publish in this issue are but samples of what is to come, and

denomination in numbers, and nine-tenths of the world's total population are of other beliefs. However as the World's Fair is to be held in America where Sunday stands as a typical American institution, the question is receiving a thorough discussion from all points.

In the death of Whittier and Tennyson the world has lost its greatest poets of modern times. Widely differing in their songs as in their surroundings, they touched the minds and hearts of millions of their fellowmen.

John G. Whittier has been aptly called "the poet of the people" and his genius was ever exercised in their behalf. Every great moral cause received his advocacy, and his efforts were constantly for justice, right and truth. His services in behalf of the abolition of slavery, both by tongue and pen, were of the greatest value and he did much to strengthen the cause of the Union by his poetic appeals to the conscience of the people. Whittier was the personification of the sweetness and simplicity of his poems. He held firm convictions of morality, religion and truth, but his greatness of soul gave him tolerance of the beliefs of others. He had nothing but charity for the misguided and kindly sympathy for the unfortunate. His tastes confined him closely to New England, whose history and traditions he embodied and whose people he loved. His works were voluminous and read in every household. "Snowbound" probably best re-flects his genius and character. His life was pure and gentle and he is forever enshrined in the hearts of the people.

ne hearts of the people.

Alfred Tennyson, like Whittier, lived to a Charts.

The next illustration is of the whistling buoy.

serene old age, and his death was the extinguishing from earth of a great light which will shine with greater brilliancy in immortality. The eminence which he had reached, and the honors that were heaped upon him brought to him a publicity that was distasteful, and his latter years were those of a recluse. His genius and versatility early placed him in the front rank of English poets. His fame increased with each of his more important productions, and he was known and appreciated the world over. The most popular of his works is "Enoch Arden," while among his greatest may be mentioned "Locksley Hall," "The Princess," "In Memoriam" and "Idyls of the King." The latter was his favorite work, to which he devoted the greatest attention and care.

After the death of Wordsworth, Tennyson

was apointed poet laureate. For many years he has written a poem on the occasion of every great English event. Personally he was a very eccentric, unlovable man, but his peculiarities were overlooked in the contemplation of his great poetic genius, which in his time stands

SENTINELS OF THE SEA.

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LIFE on the ocean wave," can be endured if not enjoyed, in these days of swift steamers, for no matter how rough the voyage the ship speeds onward and there is a port ahead. But to embark for an eight or ten months voyage in a vessel which remains firmly anchored in one spot, tossing and heaving amid the fercest gales and wildest seas, is an experience which few care to undergo.

At several p o ints along our coast the United States Government, dhading it impracticable to creet light houses, have anchored staunch vessels upon dangerous reefs and hidden rocks. These vessels are called light-ships, and of course bear no sail, but upon their bare masts twohuge octagonal lanterns slide. These lanterns slide.

wessels are called light-ships, and of light-ships. And of light-ships, and of light-ships and errors ship to a certification of a light-ship and light-ship and light-ship and light-ships and light-ships and light-ship and light-ships and light-ships and light-ships and light-ships and light-ship and light-ships and light-ships and light-ship and light-ships and light-ship and light-



N the can buoy, for a foundation, various attachments have been added. The bell buoy, for instance, consists of a pyramidal framework and furnished at can buoy, and furnished at a pex with a large toll bell, which the rocking of the sen causes to toll most mournfully. The location of every buoy, lighthouse and lightship is accurately noted on the charts all vessels carry. A nun buoy is a double can buoy, that is, pointed at both ends. These buoys are made of boller iron, painted red, or some other conspicuous color, riveted at the seams. They are hollow, watertight, and large enough to contain sufficient air to float them easily.

ART IN THE WHITE HOUSE.

It may not be generally known that Mrs. Benjamin Harrison has exceptional ability and taste as an artist, especially in the line of flower-painting. Since she has occupied position as lady of the White House, she has found time to paint a magnificent a group of orchids on a porcelain panel, which is now being made public, and which is entitled, "A White House Orchid."

Mrs. Harrison is not the first lady bearing high honors who has shown a decided taste for art. Princes Scuise, Queen Victoria's third daughter, has for years studied under the best masters, with flattering received and the same direction.

Pointed at both ends. These buoys are made of boiler iron, painted red, or some other conspicuous color, riveted at the seams. They are hollow, watertight, and large enough to contain sufficient air to float them easily.



NOTHER contrivance is the lantera bu oy, arranged upon a nun-shaped buoy. Illuminating gas is compressed into cylinders and placed inside of the buoy. Sufficient quantity can thus be stored to feed the flame for over a month, when the lighthouse tender has to make a visit to it and put in another cylinder. As no provision is made for putting it out the light burns continually, though the flame is hardly noticeable in broad daylight. As vessels from distant shores approach our coasts, an anxious watch for buoys is maintained. And when one of these signboards of the ocean appears, or sounds faintly over the waters, the location of the vessel is determined by reference to



HE whistle of the buoy, like that of the American boy, is "automatic." It goes of itself. It would be hard to say which makes the worst noise. This, as the picture indicates is a nun buoy, the inside mechanism forblowing the whistle by compressed air heing operated by the ing operated by the

above the water, in which, by the action of the waves, a little chimney-like orifice has been formed. During a storm, the waves beat with great force into this cavity, compressing the air, and by forcing it through the small outlet at the top produce a powerful whistle-blast, heard for many miles. On calm days the whistle is silcnt, but the more severe the storm, This natural whistling

whistie-blast, heard for many miles. On the wistie is silicult, but the more severe the storm, the louder and more frequent the warning.

This natural whistling bout, the Farallone Islands. These tall, rocky peaks are owned by a company who for years engaged in the novel enterprise of gathering the eggs of the my ria ds of sea-fowl which occupy these crags as breeding places and disposing of them in the 8an Francisco markets. The concern are said to have gathered and sold over one hundred thousand dozen in a single season. The men engaged in this pursuit are called eggers.

The sea-fowl live on fish and mollusks of various kinds. The latter being encased in their flinty shells would seem, at first thought, to be invulnerable, but the clever birds carry a mussel or a clam high up in the air and by dropping it upon the rocks below burst open the shell and expose the unfortunate inmate; then like a flash the bird darts after its food only to find, perhaps, that some rival, demurely seated near, has arrived at the spot first and gobbled up the choice morsel.

FISH GYMNASTICS.

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92, hy the Publishers of COMFORT.

EOPLE often wonder how the fish in brooks and rivers go up the stream and overcome obstacles like dams, rapids and waterfalls, on their journey to the headwaters to spawn, or to gratify their curiosity and love for exploration. The larger trout and salmen usually ascend obstructions at night, but the smaller fish may often be seen doing this in the daytime. They swim or rather "scull" themselves with their powerful tail fins up through the water, moving upward so much faster than the current descends, that they finally gain the top and pass into the quieter water above. They miscalculate sometimes, and fall back again, stunned or even with a broken back, should they have the ill-luck to strike upon a rock.

p bodily out of the water, over vari-

with a broken back, should they have the ill-luck to strike upon a rock.

Fish often jump bodily out of the water, over various obstructions, or to catch insects. Trout catch objects from below, while salmon seize them from above. This fish will also jump out of the water when caught, often succeeding in tearing itself loose from the fisherman's hook.

In order to keep up the supply of fish in the rivers it is absolutely necessary that they be permitted to go up stream to the river's source to spawn the eggs which will develop into young fish. It is therefore the law, in many sections, that all builders of dams above a certain height, must construct "fish stairs"—an arrangement of small ascents, which the smaller fish will be able to successfully navigate.

More serious than the height of dams, is the discharge of refuse into the streams from factories, saw mills, etc., causing such mortality among the fish—slmost the cheapest food with which a nation can provide itself—that many rivers formerly abundantly supplied are now almost destitute. Unless promptly legislated against, this shortsighted policy will be as ruinous as its companion folly—cutting off all the timber.

But the most remarkable fish in many respects, is the East Indian hunter, who shoots a drop of water through its smout to a distance of three or four feet with unerring aim hitting a fly or insect and stunning it so that it falls into the water and is easily "bagged" by this clever sportsman.

ART IN THE WHITE HOUSE.

As heaven sends her dews to those on earth, those on earth should render their dues to heaven.

The fastest young men and women are the most sily overtaken by disaster, disease and destruction. That the pen is a mighty weapon is proved by the fact that more people kill themselves with the per than with the pistol.

It does not follow that because one blushes he has done something to be ashamed of. The roses, strawberries and peaches have done nothing to be ashamed

FACTS ABOUT THE WORLD'S FAIR. A section of one of California's big trees is to be a feature of the Government building.

The head gardener of the city of Paris will superintend the floricultural work of the French section at Chicago.

Chicago.

The department of electricity at the World's Fair will contain the late Cyrus W. Field's collection of souvenirs of the first Atlantic Cable.

Lyons, France, is the greatest silk manufacturing centre in the world, and thirty-two of its manufactories have decided to make a magnificent display at the World's Fair.

A \$75,000 club house for wheelmen is to be erected near the Fair grounds. It will be maintained during the Fair as headquarters for bicyclers from all over the world.

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The Pot Insulted the Kettle Because the Cook had not used

APOL

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EDITOR'S NOTE. The following rules govern the publication of all matter in this department.

Contrbiutors must without exception be regular sub-wribers to Comfort, and every contribution must bear the writer's own name and post office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may exceed the latter limit. Contributors must write on one side of their paper only.

Every month a number of prize monograms composed of the writer's initials, will be awarded to those sending the best contributions. These monograms, which will be most desirable ornaments for stationery, cards, etc., will be printed in connection with the respective letters, and new electrotypes of same will be malled, post paid, to the prize winners. All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of Compour, Augusta, Maine.

NOVEMBER PRIZE-MONOGRAM WINNERS.

M. J. Coudray, Myron B. Putnam, Debbie A. Hink. Samuel H. Goss,

William Christie, Ed. L. Preston, H. P. Bell, Ida Orrell,

Ned M. Selkregg.

Y DEAR FRIENDS:

How fast the time flies away! here we are, almost at Thanksgiving Day, all the beautiful summer and autumn gone, the fruits gathered in, and everything prepared for winter. It seems only a few days ago that we were celebrating independence Day, and basking in the heat of summer. But the change of the seasons does not affect our meeting together, and so we find ourselves once more gathered for a chat, this dull November morning. I would so much rather hear you talk than to talk myself, that I shall not take up any more time in preliminaries, but proceed at once to the letters and trust it is perfectly understood that I am not responsible in any way for the sentiments therein expressed. The Editor desires that the different sides shall be given a hearing in these discussions, so that the readers may be able to judge for themselves about the various matters. Letters on the subject of temperance and other like questions are therefore inserted which the cousins well know from my positon in the past, are in direct oppossition to my views, and which, of course, I am not responsible for.

"I must disagree with Clara Stevenson; I cannot abldethe thought of women 'folining hand in heard

"I must disagree with Clara Stevenson; I cannot abide the thought of women 'joining hand in hand with the men and marching to the ballot-box,' as she expresses it. Why should woman join in the turmoil, the strife, the push and struggle of political life? How often would she meet with rudeness and unkindness which she neither had the spirit to bear or the strength to resent.

Yes, God has made me a woman;
And I am content to be
Just what He made, not reaching out
For higher things, since He,
Who knows me best and loves me best
Has ordered this for me.'

Has ordered this for me.'

Miss S. does not know the vice, the effrontery and rudeness she would meet, or she would not care to 'march' into political life. Rider Haggard says: 'Woman is the helm of all things human. For her are wars; for her men toil and save up gain; for they do well or ill.' If this be true, then if all women were true and pure, they yould cause men to 'do well.' It isn't always boldness, self-assertion, 'bound-to-have-my-rights,' spirit that moves the universe. I am reminded of a dialogue which I recently read between Pat and a citizen. It ran as follows:

cently read between Pat and a citizen. It ran as follows:
Cltizen—"What are you doing now?"
Pat—"Begorra, we're striking."
Cltizen—"What are you striking for?"
Pat—"Our rights."
Citizen—"Who has wronged you?"
Pat—"I don't know."
Citizen—"Well then, what are you striking for?"
Pat—"Well, I'm striking for me rights, and begorra, I'm going to have 'em!"
LANKY JIM."
"It has been a twelvemonth since I came among the cousins. Comfort life, during this time, has been one of marked and steady improvement. I compliment the facile pens of my young lady cousins, especially Jeanie, Kansas Sunfower and Southern Girl. Adam's Wife, I honor you! You spoke from the heart, and a true heart spoke. Why does woman wish to become man? Has she not been accorded all the highest honors of humanity? What is the mission of woman? a poet has said:
"To give birth

"To give birth
To the mercy of Heaven descending on Earth
The mission of woman—to sweetly infuse
Thro' the sorrow and sin of Earth's registered curse
The blessings which mitigate all."

Thro' the sorrow and sin of Earth's registered curse The blessings which mitigate all.'

Can she infuse these blessings from the stump, or by mingling at the ballot-box? What a lowering of the standard of womanhood! There are many, many women who would not avail themselves of the high (?) and inestimable (?) privileges of the ballot-box, if it were accorded them; thank Heaven it is so! Professional women are very well, so long as they remain *komen;* but will they? Speak of modesty and gentleness being the attributes of woman—is the court-room or jury-box the place for their exercise? Where is the Attic Philosopher? I am one of his disciples, but we would rather he teach us silence from precept, than from example. Novel-readers, pet kittens, and religion disposed of, lovers and votaries of Bacchus tortured, the cousins turn their pens on the red man of the West. Indians, as the other races, have degenerated. The Noble Red Man lives only in fiction. History knew him not, didn't have time to make his acquaintance. Indian nature is as doubtful and as variable as the cousins' pseudonyms. This column is given us that we might know one another, so why not work that it might be made perfect? It is indeed a splendid success, but there is always room for advancement. There's no equal to our Comfort!

"Open the door, O hermit, and let a poor wanderer is I tive in favority Western Teyns. away down close Can she insides these blessings from the stump, or by mingling at the ballot-box? What a lowering of the state of the case.

In Orrect, the state of the case.

In Orrect, the state of the case is an activation of the standard of womanhood! There are man, many of the state of the case.

In Orrect, the state of the case is an activation of the standard of womanhood! There are man, many of the standard of womanhood! There are man, many of the standard of womanhood! There are man, many of the standard of womanhood in the case is an activation of the standard of womanhood. The case man, many of the standard of womanhood in the case of the case.

What it exists of convert that it is an tempted to give you my own of the standard of the standard of the case.

The subject of temperanee was so obly and can always and can always and the last number of Convert that it is an tempted to give you my own of the state of the state of the case.

The subject of temperanee was so obly and can always and the street of the state of the case.

The subject of temperanee was so obly and can always and can always and can always and the street of the state o

fought silently. The surest way to gain what we want is to educate brothers and sons up to a higher plane. The mothers and sisters are a power in the land, if they only realized it, and made a correct use of their power. Education, not laws, will stop the great vices.

Texas Star."

Enough has been said on this subject for one time, and we will now hear a few words from a new cousin.



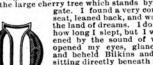
streets any any, sunday, so texture excepted.

The grape culture gives employment to a great many persons.
Before the picking season comes, there are the vineyards to be cleaned out and cultivated, and the grape baskets to be made and handled. Making the baskets is done by young men who receive forty-five cents a hundred for doing it, and many of them earn over two dollars a day.

This is a great grape section and anyone who would take a trip to North East about the first of October would feel well repaid for coming.

NED M. SELKREGG, North East, Pa."

EDITOR'S NOTE.-Letters like the above are at all



EDITOR'S NOTE.—Letters like the above are at all times welcome.

"Having nothing else to do one evening, I climbed up in the large cherry tree which stands by the front gate. I found a very comfortable seat, leaned back, and was soon in the land of dreams. I do not know how long I slept, but I was awakened by the sound of voices. I opened my eyes, glanced down, and beheld Bilkins and Wilkins sitting directly beneath me on the top rail of the fence. These worthese were partners in the saloon-business. It was a dark night but the rays from an electric light fell directly on them so that I could see them plainly, as well as hear what they said. I was just beginning to doze again, when Bilkins broke the silence by saying: 'I tell you, we saloon-keepers have got to get a move on ourselves, or those temperance cranks will beat us yet. Here they have already founded Harvey, which is only a 35 minute ride from Chicago, and won't allow a drop of liquor sold there, and not a house of ill-fame in the place; it is all in the deed. And they are even talking about taking our screens 'hou me't allow a dozen families from have 'had more than that a dozen families from have

house of ill-fame in the place; it is all in the deed. And they are even talking about taking our screens from us."

'Do tell!' ejaculated Wilkins.

'And more than that, a dozen families from here have bought land, and will move there. I tell you, something must be done,' said Bilkins, warming up on his subject. Wilkins nodded his head, but said nothing; evidently he was waiting for Bilkins to go on. 'And I have a plan,' he continued, 'which will just do'em up.'

'Do tell,' said Wilkins.

'The buffet was a great thing for us when it was established, but we need something more so as to be able to keep up with our enemies; and I propose painting the outside of our buildings with beautiful pictures, so as to make'em look nice. Do you see?' But Wilkins was evidently very blind, for he did not see, and he wanted to know how that was going to benefit them. 'Why, you blockhead, by having both outside and inside of our saloon attractive, we will get more customers. People will stop at our place who would otherwise pass it by unnoticed, and young men just from the country to see the sights will be easy victims.' Here he gave a self-satisfied chuckle, as if he already saw his plan in operation. 'Nobody will tell them, and—' but he got no farther. I could stand it no longer. I forgot everything, that they did not know of my presence, that I had been playing the part of eavesdropper, and I cried out:

'Yes they will too, I'll tell them. I shall proclaim it from the house-tops,' and I began to desecnd. But I was as totally unprepared for what happened as they were. On glancing up and seeing me, they both jumped and darted away, crying:

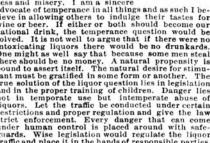
'Oh a ghost! a ghost!' and the last thing I saw was their wild frightened eyes as they glanced back at the tree.

As soon as I reached the house, I looked at the clock, and what was my surprise to find the hands pointing to the house of middlight. But eyen then I

the tree.

As soon as I reached the house, I looked at the clock, and what was my surprise to find the hands pointing to the hour of midnight. But even then I did not understand why I had been mistaken for a ghost, and it was not until I passed the mirror, and saw that I wore my white wrapper, that I realized the state of the case.

[DA ORRELL, Murphysboro, Ills."]



on this question, as there are others of importance which the cousins desire to discuss.

on this question, as there are others of importance which the cousins desire to discuss.

"I live in the town of Park Side, a small suburb of Chicago, and I believe that I reside nearer the World's Fair than any of the cousins—our house is about three blocks from that magnificent place. Every day a person can here gaze upon the beautiful buildings, almost from within the house, and for 25 cents one can gain admission to the grounds, where he can see the immense structures more fully, besides seeing the picturesque waterways, the island park and many other delightful features. Allow me to state here a few facts and figures concerning the Fair. The site of the Exposition comprises 662 acres. The principal buildings are located in the central and southern portions of Jackson Park. There are nearly thirty buildings being erected by the Eposition Company, and in addition to these it is expected that the various States and foreign nations will erect at least firty buildings. The buildings were designed by the most eminent architects in the United States, the design of the Woman's Building being the work of a woman. The Administration Building is the architectural gem of the main group; it will have a magnificent golden dome 250 feet high and 150 in diameter. The buildings will consume 97,000,000 feet (7,460 carloads) of lumber and 18,000 tons of steel and iron. The Main Building will be the largest ever erected for any purpose; 9 the size of the Capitol at Washington of 1000 candle power cach and 120,000 in candlescent lights of 16 candle power cach and 120,000 in candlescent lights of 61 candle power cach and 120,000 in candlescent lights of 16 candle power cach, will be required. Motive power for the Exposition will be furnished by engines of 24,000 horse-power.

WM. CHRISTIE, Park Side, Chicago, Ill."



eign foe tram into the dust, to prote ct to prote ct. The kindness white man by was repaid bondage. One the Indians occupied a part of the territory now known as W. Va., in the county of Monongalia, two Indians chanced to come within the vicinity of the Fortand were met by the whites and killed. Not satisfied with killing them, they inhumanly skinned one of them, and used the skin to make belts, etc. Western Student says. The Indians make no advancement, while the Caucasian race have risen to the splendid civilization of the present. This I admit; but under what conditions have the two races lived? The Caucasian had the blessed religion of Jesus Christ to civilize him; the Indian had not. Remember the Caucasian made no advancement from the dark superstition and cruelty of heathenism until Christianity began to exert its influence. I believe the Indians would always have lived peacably with the whites if they had been treated right.

H. P. BELL, Henrietta, W. Va."

with the whites if they had been treated right. H. P. BELL, Henrietta, W. Va."

with the whites if they had been treated right.

H. P. Bell, Henrietta, W. Va."

"I bring you the sad tidings that one of your number has gone from earth. On May 23, as the sun went down, the pure spirit of one whom you knew as William Thames, went to God. I often wondered why, during his sickness and delirium, he talked so much about Aunt Minerva. In his lucid intervals, the tried to tell me about his cousinly correspondence; but it was not until a month after his death, when mother and I performed the sad task of looking over his trunk, that I understood. There were many letters, and several years of Comport tied together. Do you wonder that we feel a deep interest in the cousins, and that Comport will ever have a tender corner in our hearts. I wish that I might tell you something of the beautiful life of the one gone. Let me give you one picture that will help. When the dear mother bent above the coffined form, these were the words she spoke: 'Oh my darling, how many times those hands have lightened your mother's burdens!' I might sum up his life no better than in the words of a Christian minister who knew him well: 'He seemed to me one of the most perfect Christian men I ever met.' God bless and keep you all is the prayer of WILLIAM THAMES' SISTER."

We shall long remember the cousin who has gone from us, and the sympathy of all our band will go

We shall long remember the cousin who has gone from us, and the sympathy of all our band will go out to the family in their sad bereavement. May the remembrance of his life make ours purer and better!

"LET'S GO A-FISHING."

We arose one bright Sunday morning in the month of December, and after taking a brisk walk in the bracing air, we dressed ourselves and went dutifully

What the text was we do not remember, but we do remember thinking the sermon not long enough for after church in the morning there was nothing to do until church time at night. There was no place to go for we were strangers in the city of San Diego. Walk? Well to confess the truth, we had done so much walking in the last few days that our blistered feet objected to that form of exercise.

Hiring a carriage was too expensive, and the street

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breakfast, the supper we ate the night before and a host of other things. But did those "scruples" go? Not a bit of it. Lying limp and helpless—just where we do not remember, but it was on board the yacht—we wondered in a vague, dreamy fashion, why they had not gone with the other things, but they hadn't. To be sure they were the only articles that had "stayed with us," but they were stronger than ever. Finally we persuaded our friends to draw near enough to shore to enable us to land; as, "after due consideration, we did not want to fish."

When we gained the beech, we sat down for a while to meditate upon the total emptiness of life, particularly in our own case.

We realized as never before that "nature abbored a vacuum," and we did not blame nature a bit. We give it as our opinion that man was never intended to carry a vacuum around in his anatomy.

One question was uppermost in our minds, it was, "Will we be able to reach the motorline with nothing but our scruples to back us?"

We arose at last and with bowed head made our way to the motor—running from the city to a suborb some miles distant—boarding the train we were soon in our own rooms.

After taking a nap and supping on a bowl of bread

way to some miles distant—boarding the train to a some miles distant—boarding the train our own rooms.

After taking a nap and supping on a bowl of bread and milk we felt refreshed, and in a short time retired to bed, having resolved never to go fishing again on Sunday, for, easy as most things are to get rid of, "seruples stick closer than a brother."

Debbig A. Hink, Maryville, Mo."

uples stick closer than a brother."

Debrie A. Hink, Maryville, Mo."

"I was glad to read the letter in the last issue of Comport in favor of opening the World's Fair on Sundays. Its broad and liberal spirit and its tone of practical Christianity commend itself to the attention of thoughtful readers. But, much as I respect its sincerity I cannot agree with its conclusions. The great Columbian Exposition will bring together exhibits of the material progress of the world; all nations will be represented there by their products and their people. While visitors from foreign lands will gaze with wonder upon the evidences of the remarkable development of the United States in all branches of art and industry, the greatest exhibit of all will be that of American institutions of which we are

be that of American institutions of which we are so justly proud—the form and character of our national and municipal government, our schools and dell things that

churches, our society, our homes and all things that make this 'The land of the free and the home of the brave.' The American Sunday is a typical American institution. From the earliest times it has been religiously observed as a day for rest and the worship of God. Take away the observance of the Sabbath and the firm foundation of our national Christianity would be undermined. Many plausible reasons may be advanced for opening the Pair on Sunday, but there is a superior principle involved in the matter to which we, as a Ohristian mation, should strictly adhere. The moral and spiritual development of a people is as important as their material advancement. I believe that there can be no real progress in those things that uplift humanity where spiritual advancement is neglected. Let us show to the world not a Continental but an American Sunday—a day devoted to rest and of devotion to church and home. 'Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.' EDWARD L. PRESTON, Dallas, Texas."

"Perhaps a aketch of life at

home. Remember EDDW.

"Perhaps a sketch of life at Mt. Holyoke College would be interesting to the COMPORT girls and boys.

People generally believe that Mt. Holyoke, Mass., is next door to a conflyvent. They think that the student here spends her time entirely in studying or at religious services; that she never dances, goes to theatres or parties or sees a young man. All these ars erroneous ideas. True it is the re is

young man. All these are erroneous ideas. True it is, the re is
much study; not
many branches at
a time but the
few there are are
gone through with great thoroughness. When Tuesday evening comes it brings many a young man to
our pleasant parlors. Every evening the girls dance
in the gymnasium. In the fall occurs the Seniors'
reception to the freshmen, the regular Hallowe'en
party, the Soph's peanut hunt, and the Freshmans'
cob-web party.

reception to the freshmen, the regular manowe of party, the Soph's peanut hunt, and the Freshmans' cob-web party.

In the summer there are most delightful drives to neighboring towns, walks to the tops of mountains, from which you can plainly see Holyoke; playing tennis or rowing on the lake in our own lovely grounds of seventy acres. In the winter there is coasting and skating back of the building, as in the front everyone must be dignified. Each girl furnishes her room to suit herself. Many are very cosy, with pictures on the wall, portieres at the doors, easy chairs, couches covered with pillows, and desks inviting one to study.

In these rooms many 'spreads' are given, varying from those furnished by a caterer to the humble ones fixed by one's self. In each room are the sets of regulations, which are observed because it is honorable to do so. One hour a day we devote to light domestic work. On the whole, our life is very pleasant, varied and enjoyable.

Yearhoe, Lake Co., Ills."

"The sentiments expressed in the cousin's letter which appeared in the October Comport, relating to opening the World's Fair on Sundays, will, I am sure, touch a responsive chord in many hearts. When we reflect that this is to be not an American fair, but a World's Fair, to which we invite Anabaptists, Jews, Buddhists, Mohametans and Idolators, all of whom have their own Sabbath days, as well as the million of non-sectarians or religious people who, like the Shakers, regard all days equal, to be kept holy by ceasing to do evil and learning to be and to do good, when we reflect upon these things, the fairness and justice of opening on Sunday must appear to all unprejudiced minds. We should remember that the Declaration of Independence of our great and glorious country was written and signed, and our Constitution formed, by unbelievers like Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, and Thomas Jefferson, and that the latter document expressly forbid religious legious freedom for themselves, have exhibited a narrow and unreasonable desire to interfere with the religious freedom for themselves, have exhibited a narrow and unreasonable desire to interfere with the religious freedom for themselves, have exhibited a narrow and unreasonable desire to interfere with the religious freedom for themselves, have exhibited a narrow and unreasonable desire to interfere with the religious freedom for themselves, have exhibited a narrow and unreasonable desire to interfere with the religious freedom for themselves, have exhibited a narrow and unreasonable desire to interfere with the religious freedom for the wise people of the world insisted that the world was flat. One man claimed

the religious. It is a matter of record and fact. For un-told years, for instance, the wise people of the world insisted that the world was flat. One man claimed that it was round and turned upon its axis. A few so-called Christians arrested, imprisoned and tor-

tured him to death just as certain so-called Ohristians of the present day arrested and killed the man King of Tennessee who kept the true Sabbath—Saturday—and ploughed his field on their Sabbath—Sunday



tians of the present day arrested and knied the king of Tennessee who kept the true Sabbath—Saturday—and ploughed his field on their Sabbath—Sunday.

While I am a believer in true religion and true Ohristianity, I am willing to accord to every mortal the freedom of his convictions, and it is but reasonable to ask that all men should evince the same fraiernal spirit of toleration. Those who do not wish to go to the Fair on Sunday should put no obstacle in the path of others who find on that day their only opportunity of witnessing at the great exhibition the innumerable evidences of the wonderful progress of humanity. While the church has done and is doing good work, there are good men outside the church who have done and are doing good. I believe with the Rev. E. A. Horton, of Boston, that 'the World's Fair should be opened on Sunday, in the first place, because I believe that theoretically Sunday should be made a bright and cheerful day, one of uplifting rather than depression. In the second place, I believe the Fair should be open on Sunday because similar experiments in keeping open public institutions have been successful, not only in Boston but the world over. Look at Boston, for instance, with its Public Garden, Public Library and Art Museum open on Sunday.'

Cleveland, Ohio."

[This question having been discussed on both sides, in the second place, I seem to the successful to the world over. Look at Boston, for instance, with its Public Garden, Public Library and Art Museum open on Sunday.'

Cleveland, Ohio."

[This question having been discussed on both sides, we cannot now give further space for its continuance, as other cousins are anxious to be heard on subjects of equal interest.—Editor.]

of equal interest.—Eatter.]
I suppose we must be closing our talks now, or the Editor will be reminding us that we have overrun our space. Try to make the letters brief, especially those written for the prizes.
With kindest wishes for all, your affectionate AUNT MINERVA.

Facts About November Fashions.

BY RUTH PARKTON.

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Result: I returned to the city in splendid health. Well, November came and brought a week of cold weather with it. I thought I thought

I thought I would wear'my expensive cload of the previous winter, another season. At the end of the cold week I was alarmed to find myself visibly failing in strength and set in strength and set myself seriously to finding the cause. A thought struck me. Couldit be the weight of that coat? I discarded it immediately and as the weather

carded it immediately and as the weather was warmer, wore that intense weariness on returning from an outing. With the return of cold weather I bought a short coat of cloth just as warm as the long cloak and went through the winter in perfect health' I was just as comfortable, too, in point of warmth, and nothing could tempt me to adopt a long coat for street wear, again.

could tempt me to adopt a long coat for street wear, again.

The Russian blouse is still so much liked that is being made for a winter outside garment of heavy, warm cloth. Sometimes it has a Watteau pleat on the back, sometimes the plain back, but in either case is belted. This style is becoming to rather tall and distinctly slender figures and is one of the best modes for a "home dressmaker" to attempt, as the fitting is so simple.

In tight-fitting coats there is very little change except in length. The "officer's coat" is simply an elongated basque, reaching nearly to the knee, with

military trimmings of braid. The English box coat promises to be one of the popular fashions in wraps. The back is made without a centre seam and is fitted quite closely to the form

by the side pieces. The fronts are loose and double-breasted and the deep collar and cuffs and wide revers give a very jaunty air. The only air. The only finish is rows

and use ul little wrap is made of three graduated capes, the longest reaching the hips. The hips. The extend not extend all the way, the lowest cape being set into a surah lining and thetwo other

other two adjusted on this lining.
There is no.
There is no.
There is no the shoulders. The collar is high and flaring, and ribbon fastens the throat. These capes are best made of ladies' cloth. The edges are cut and not hemmed and no trimming is used. They are pretly in dark red, blue, tan or gray. These are newer than the fur shoulder capes so long worn and are especially convenient at this season, when the winter cloak is too heavy, yet a wrap is needed to throw over the shoulders.

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Simple Science for Busy Breadwinners.

ELECTRICITY II.

Written for COMPORT



NERGY cannot be destroyed, but it may be lost or wasted. It always exists, even though we do not see it manifested. It is either active or latent. A lump of coal holds within it-How to change latent into active energy and

get the most work out of any substance with the least waste is a problem concerning not only scientific men but everybody.

Fuel, water and wind are the great sources from which energy and power are drawn. But power is seldom either at the place or in the form in which we want it. One great task of inventors is contriving to transport it to wherever it is wanted for use, with the least loss on the way.

Electricity is claimed to be the most economical way of transmitting power. Some of its properties re-semble those of water; hence electricity is often called a "fluid." To illustrate: water in flowing through a pipe meets with a certain amount of friction against the inner surface. This has a tendency to check the strength and flow of the current. So electricity when passing through any conductor, meets with a certain amount of friction or "resistance." In the article upon electric lighting in our last issue it was explained that the friction was so great in the lamps as to heat the little carbon loop white hot, tous p oducing light. If a circuit is carrying too great a current of electricity its strength can readily be reduced by connecting in more wire, thus adding resistance. By knowing the strength of a current when it starts out, and the amount of resistance it will have to overcome in its circuit, electricians can easily tell how much available current will be left which may be drawn upon for power. Thus in the transformation of latent to active energy, coal is put beneath the boiler in a central station or power house, the boiler generates steam, steam drives engine, engine revolves dynamo, dynamo charges circuit of wire with electricity which is

drawn off wherever needed into electric But in each successive step a fraction of power is en-tirely lost. The engine does not get all the power there is in the coal, neither is all of the energy of the engine converted into electrical energy. The dynamo in turn uses part of its strength in overcoming he resistance in the circuit. So that if the circuit drives say fifty small motors, their combined power will be somewhat less than that of the large dynamo which feeds them all. Yet notwithstanding all these losses, much more energy remains than can be transmitted by any other method. Careful calculations show

that a steam engine receives only one-tenth of the total power contained in the coal which furnishes it with steam. The other nine-tenths is absolutely wasted. But of the power which a dynamo receives at a central station, over eighty per cent is given forth again by the motors along the circuit. A later article will be devoted to an exact and simplified description of the construction and action of motors and

dynamos.

To illustrate the possibilities of the transmission of power by electricity, the tremendous waterpower of Niagara Falls could be converted by water wheels and dynamos into energy and conveyed five hundred miles or more on a well insulated copper wire no bigger than one's little finger, losing on the way about one-fifth of its original power through resistance.

miles or more on a well insulated copper wire no bigger than one's little finger, losing on the way about one-fifth of its original power through resistance.

The particular application of electricity to be considered in this article is its use as a motive power for transportation. Electric cars are being introduced everywhere. Half the street railways in the cities of the United States use electricity. Cars of this description take up less room than horse-cars, are clean, make no smoke or smell, are economical, do not require the attendance of a skilled engineer and fireman on each car. The motorman's duties are so simple that many roads, when they change from horses to electricity, train the drivers to manage the electrics. Another advantage over steam power is the very small space occupied by the motor compared to boiler, engine, fuel, tanks for water, etc. The motor is fastened to the under side of the car floor, connected with gear wheels to one of the axles. The passengers themselves furnish the necessary "weight of adhesion" to prevent slipping of the wheels.

There have been three or four methods of construction. In one the cars carried their own motive power in the shape of storage batteries of peculiar construction which were charged or refilled with electricity at the central station. This method has been abandoned on account of the great weight and bulk of the large number of batteries or "cells" as they are frequently called, which were necessary. Recent inventions have somewhat revived this plan, and perhaps eventually some way may be discovered of putting electricity into such compact form for storage as to not only render this method of railroading practicable but admit of anybody buying a can of electricity as easily as a can of oil.

Another plan was to insulate the rails from the foround with some material through which the electricity would not escape and run a current through them, but this was found to be impracticable, except perhaps on an elevated structure.

A third plan was the conduit

remaining method—the trolly system—is by a most generally in use. It has met with much The remaining method—the troily system—is by far the most generally in use. It has met with much opposition from some, and undoubtedly has its draw-backs and imperfections, but nevertheless is the most satisfactory and effective at the present time. People fear it because of the danger of receiving a current which would kill them, yet many prominent electricians say it will neither kill nor seriously injure a human being. The current is carried on a bare copper wire suspended about twenty feet above the centre of the track and kept stretched tight by yires from poles placed usually at the edge of the sidewalk. About three feet above this wire is the sidewalk. About three feet above this wire is the sidewalk. No current travels in this. It is merely to catch any broken telegraph or telephone wire which might otherwise fall across the phone wire which might otherwise fall across the complete sets free to all who send 4c. for mailing same together with sample copy of December Comport.

avoided as they would possibly lead the powerful meter current right into houses, burning out the tele-phone instruments and sometimes setting buildings on fire.

The connection with the trolly wire and the car is

avoided as they would possibly from the powerful motor current right into houses, burning out the telephone instruments and sometimes setting buildings on fire.

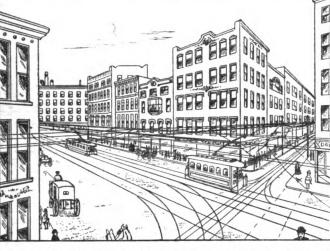
The connection with the trolly wire and the car is maintained by a sweeplike arrangement consisting of a long pole bearing at the upper end a deeply grooved brass wheel four or five inches in diameter. The pole is attached near the bottom to an upright post on the roof of the car, and a set of springs is fastened to the lower end of the pole, which tend to pull it toward the post, thus making the pole stand upright. These springs therefore push the brass wheel on the other end of the pole firmly against the under side of the trolly wire. The current, passing through proper wiring in the sweep, is conducted by insulated wires in the tramework of the car down to the motor under the floor and finishes its circuit through the rails or track. Persons in the car cannot of course feel any electric current at all. Part of the current may be switched into an incandescent lighted at night. There is a rope attached to the upper end of the sweep, so that the conductor on the rear platform can in case of need pull down the sweep from contact with the trolly wire and break the circuit, thus stopping the car. The motorman on the front platform has in addition to the starting lever one which will cause the motor to reverse and back the car in an emergency. Of course if the sweep prove pulled away from the feed wire the lamps, if lighted, would all go out, but merely stopping the car, which the motorman does by cutting off the supply of electricity to the motor, does not extinguish them.

These cars can be run at any speed up to even fifteen miles an hour, and are usually equipped with part of the main current. The motorman on the front platform rings these by pressing a button, to give warning of the car's approach, and the incessant clanging adds not a little to the din and confusion of a great city, and at street corners where two or more lines of cars cross each ot

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PLAYING-CARDS.

Written for Comfort. "On o'er long nights, with sour looks-They pore o'er devils picture-books."—Burns.

pler devils picture-books."—Burns.

HE Devil's Picture-books," as playing-cards have been called, have a queer and interesting history. Whether or not his Satanic Majesty invented playing-cards we have no means of knowing, and their inventor is still a subject of speculation.

Cards were brought from the East at the time of the Crusades, and when first known in Europe were named Tarots. The first consisted of 78 cards, that is, four suits of numeral cards and



c a r d s close ely resem bl. ingTarots are still to be found in some parts of Switzerland, Germany and Alsace, where they are used by the peasantry.

About the middle of the fifteenth century cards became articles of merchandise, and the demand for them increased so rapidly that they were soon manufactured at a moderate cost. At first they were hand-painted on thin ivory, or carved on delicate woods. Saints represented the picture cards. The Chinese claim that cards were known among them centuries before other nations used them. Their name for a card is "Shen" or "Fan." They print their cards in black on thin cardboard, and have animals or the names of animals upon them.

This year Vienna, the capital of Austria, proposes to celebrate the anniversary of the birthday of playing-cards. An exhibition of the cards of various nations and ages will be one of the interesting features.

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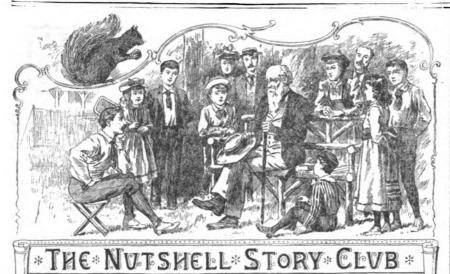
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Under this head are published every month the best original short stories received under the following prize offer and the writers of which have compiled with the conditions here named.

Only regular subscribers may compete for the prizes. All contributions must bear the writer's full name and address; must be written on one side of the paper only and be mailed in a sealed envelope, duly stamped, to EDITOR NUTSHELL STORY CLUB, care of COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

All stories must be original and contributors may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace; of city or country life, or of experiences on land or sea—but no story must contain more than 1200 or less than 800 words. No manuscript will be returned unless an addressed and stamped envelope is enclosed.

The writer of the best original story will receive \$20 cash; of the second best, \$15 cash; of the third best, \$10 cash and of the fourth best, \$5 cash.

The prize winners for November are:

The prize winners for November are: Clara I. Clingan, \$20. Frank E. Havens, \$10. Granville Sharpe, \$15. Rosa F. Toller, \$5.

Granville Sharpe, \$15. Rosa F. Toller, \$5. NOTE:—By an oversight our October issue contained the announcement that a prize had been awarded to the author of the story published in that issue entitled "High Priced Music." This story was not original, a similar story, with precisely the same plot, having appeared in a Pacific Coast paper some years ago. Our announced prize was therefore withheld. Contributors will please bear in mind that everything published under this head must be strictly original.

A FORTUNE IN HIS EAR.

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HO is he?"

"Don't know. Sort of a homeless chap, I guess,'s replied the man who sat on the cracker barrel.

"Know his name?" asked the first speaker, who lounged against the coun-

ter. "No."

The subject these remarks heard every word, though the speakhad not intended that he should. The grocery store at Pine Fork, a small Connecticut town, included the railway

station as well. This was separated from the store by a low iron fence, with a gate. Back of this was the ticket office, and beside that a young man with very red hair was sending some messages over the wire. The sharp clickety-click of the instrument mingled with the sound of falling rain without, and storm-tossed trees beating the roof.

In the section of the room known as the railway station, sat a man, his wet boots steaming before the stove, his head sunk forward on his breast. His face was dejected and dispirited, his clothing decently shabby. He had come East, after a long sojourn in California, to search for his relatives, whom he had not seen in twenty-five years. In this he had been unsuccessful, just as he had been about everything he had ever undertaken in his life.

From a boy he had been of a restless, roving disposition, and the only time he had ever applied himself closely to any business was when he had learned telegraphy, as a lad of eighteen.

"It is a good plan to learn something, my son," his mother had said. "It may be the making of you sometime-who knows?"

But after saving up two hundred dollars of his earnings as a telegraph operator, he went to California, drawn thither by the gold fever which was still raging in that country. Half of his money he had given before starting to his brother—who was a studious boy-in order that he might finish his studies in a scientific school. He himself was confident that he would soon return with a fortune.

But the coveted fortune eluded him like a will-o'years of continual disc ment had finally worn away his last hope. He had long since ceased to write home. Now, at forty, looking fifty, he had come across the continent, to his native town in Connecticut, where he was told that his mother had been dead ten years, and that his brother had gone West somewhere-no one knew where.

When John Westover heard this, he knew for the first time how dear his home ties had really been to him during the long years of absence and silence. He wandered about from town to town through the East, trying to gather some news of his brother, but Now he had finally given up that project, and had that evening bought a ticket for Boston. where he hoped to find employment as a telegraph operator.

The train for the East was expected in a few mon ents. Meanwhile John Westover's trained, though long unaccustomed, ears caught the clickety-click of the telegraph machine in the room, for he was won dering whether he could readily take up his old business again. To test his own ability, he began reading the message which was then going over the With his head bent forward, he listened to the quick, metallic sounds:

"C-A-L-E-B!" Caleb! it was his brother's name, and it sounded ered to my appetite as though he were serving a din-

dear to him. With a moisture creeping over his eyes, he continued to follow the message:

"W—E—S—T—O-V—E—R!"

Then the loungers in the grocery store saw a strange thing happen. The weary, dejected figure in the station suddenly sprang to its feet, clinched its hands, every musele gree tense, and the eyes were like coals of fire. It was so quickly done, and yet it was as though another man had taken the place of the stranger by the stove—a man with courage, hope, life, action! In the brief moment that he stood there, with the rapt look of one who sees a vision, and the listening attitude of one who sees a vision, and the listening attitude of one who sees a vision, and the listening attitude of one who catches far off strains of music, they all noticed what a fine forehead he had, and the noble outlines of his figure. Then he fell back in his seat with a dazed look.

At the same instant the whistle of the down train was heard. The glare of the headlight was visible through the small-paned, curtainless windows. The man by the stove caught up his travelling bag and went toward the door. The station agent thought it best to interfere.

"That's not your train—that's the train going west," he said, dashing out in the rain after the would-be passenger. "Crazy as a loon!" he remarked, reappearing a moment later, flicking the rain off from his coat collar. "Bought a ticket for Boston and has taken a train goin' west in spite of all I could do. He's way off!"

"It hought he looked it," observed the man on the cracker barrel, in a gratified tone. He was the kindest-hearted man in the world, but life at Pine Fork was slow, and he would have been more than human not to have been gratified at a little adventure which served to break up its monotony.

Meanwhile, the object of their remarks had indeed gone westward, and he did not stop until he reached a populous town in Colorado. There he inquired for Caleb Westover, and was readily directed to his house. But when the fine mansion with its elegant grounds, which formed his br

"Caleb!" "John-v why John!" and the brothers fell into each

"John-why John!" and the brothers fell into each other's arms.

"How did you happen upon me?" said Caleb, at last.

"Why, it all came through my learning telegraphy, you know mother said it 'would be the making of me. In other words, while waiting at a railroad station I overheard a telegram addressed to you from Pine Forks—something about the sale of some timber land."

overheard a telegram addressed to you along the Forks—something about the sale of some timber land."

"Oh yes—some that belonged to mother, and I sold it last week through an agent. But what are you doing?"

"Nothing—I am a failure!"

"You are nothing of the kind—you have come into a fortune. You remember that hundred dollars you gave me years ago? Well, it just put me through the scientific school, and after awhile I came West as civil engineer. While here I discovered a silver mine in Arizona which is simply inexhaustible. I've been wanting a superintendent I could trust for some time you're just the one. I'll give up half interest in the mine? What do you say!"

"But—" began John, in bewilderment.

"No buts about it, John. It's only fair. Once you gave me half you had, now I share half I have with you. Isn't that just? And then, too, my daughter is to be married on Thanksgiving Eve, and you are in time to throw rice and old shoes at her. Eh?"

And John Westover realized that at last success had come to him, suddenly, unexpectedly, all in a moment of time—a fortune in his ear!

CLARA I. CLINGAN.

A GODDESS IN A FOG.

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of by-goneyears after the imagination has had time to weave a romance over the facts in the case. I am dealing in plain, un

varnished truths, which occurred to me, John Westmore, on the evening of August 9, 1892, in the very heart of the city of New York. I had been living in the

West nearly ten years, and having some business in the East came on, partly for that and partly to visit my uncle, who with his family,

had been abroad all summer, but who was due in New York several days before I left Denver.

ART.

Upon arriving at his handsome residence on Madion avenue, however, I was surprised to learn that he and his family were in quarantine on the lower bay, in common with the other passengers in one of the fated steamers which had come into port bearing that warning emblem-a yellow flag. In other words, he had embarked in a steamer whose steerage passengers had been stricken with cholera!

I was expected, however, by the old family servant who had been left in charge of the house, and he spared no pains to make me comfortable. He cat-

ner party, and brought out of the depths of the cellar a bottle of wine twice as old as myself, after which, placing a box of cigars in reach, he left me to my after-dinner reflections.

The library was in front of the house, up one flight, and looked out upon the broad, well lighted avenue. Seating myself in a comfortable arm chair that stood in a large open bay window, I lit a cigar and watched the blue smoke rising above my head in fantastic shapes. I felt a bit dull and gruesome. In all that mighty city, teeming with life, I knew no one. Why had I not kept up my acquaintance with Jack Armitage, my college chum at Princeton? And Jack's sister, too-what a charming visit I had one vacation at Jack's home. Daisy was there then, a mere slip of a school girl, full of mischief, withal, but giving promise of a fine woman. I had not thought f her before for years. Why had I buried myself so completely in business that I had time for nothing else? What had the world given me in exchange for my soul? What-

nothing else? What had the world given me in exchange for my soul? What—

I was not aware I was dozing until my cigar dropped and stung my hand with its expiring fire. I started and opened my eyes. There was a chill in the air and it had grown quite dark. A dense white fog had settled over everything—the street and adjoining houses—all were swallowed up. The raw mist was in my eyes, my throat, my clothing. I breathed it, tasted it, was half suffocated with it. Evidently I had slept longer than I had first supposed.

My head was lying against the back of the chair. Looking straight up my eyes fell upon what would have been sky but for the fog. Right there, penetrating the mist with a halo of light, shining like burnished gold. I discerned the half nude, slightly draped figure of a woman!

I stared with suspended breath. My heart beat quickly. Who or what was she? She floated or hovered with marvelous ease in that point in the sky, the superb gold-figure shining through the mist like a sinking sun half concealed by thin white clouds.

Was I dreaming?

I sprang to my feet, paced up and down the room several times, then again approached the window and looked up. Had I indeed dreamed it? No, she was there. I thought of the legend of Venus rising from the sea, but this angelic being was too grandly proportioned for the goddess of beauty and of love. She was magnificent. She might be better likened to some Spartan woman of old, who shared with her husband the dangers of war. Did I not, indeed, see a glimpse of a bow and arrows in her outstretched hand? Or was she beckoning?

I felt for a moment as though my senses were leaving me. Why should this regal being appear to me? I must find out if my senses were serving me true and false. Instinctively I seized my hat and left the house.

The whole city was shrouded in fog. I wandered aimlessly down the avenue, finally coming to a huge

I must find out if my senses were serving me true and false. Instinctively I seized my hat and left the house.

The whole city was shrouded in fog. I wandered aimlessly down the avenue, finally coming to a huge building which occupied an entire block and into the several entrances of which throngs of people were disappearing. I followed the crowd, and presently found myself in a vast amphitheatre, in the center of which a bicycle race was in progress. Tier after tier of faces looked down at the eager riders, and now and then a low thunder of applause half drowned the orchestra. I, too, became interested for a few minutes, then I became restless. The golden woman seemed to beckon me on. I mounted stairs and came to the entrance to a theatre. This might amuse me. I soon became one of the audience. It was an opera, and I watched the ballet dancers for awhile in a reasonable mood. I fancied I would forget the strange sight which had so confused me. Suddenly I rose, impelled again by some feeling I cannot describe, and began to ascend the stairs again. Flight after flight were ascended, until a welcome rush of cool air came toward me, and I found myself upon a roof garden. The clear sky was above me gleaming with stars—below lay the fog like a mantle.

"Why Mr. Westmore, can it be possible? How do you do?"

The voice was familiar, so was the face of the

The voice was familiar, so was the face of the elderly gentleman to whom it belonged. As I shook hands with him I recognized him as Jack Armitage's father.

father.

"We have just been speaking of you, Jack and I,"
went on the old gentleman. "Yes, Jack is here,
somewhere, and so is my daughter. Daisy you remember Mr. Westmore do you not? I wonder where
Jack went. He was saying a moment ago that he
would like to hear from you, but had lost your address!"

dress!"

At Mr. Armitage's side stood a tall graceful woman, with a sweet strong face, whom I could hardly recognize at first as the mischievous girl of ten years before. It was agreed that we should find Jack while Mr. Armitage, who suffered with a slight lameness, awaited us there. I managed things so skillfully

(Nutshell Stories concluded on page 13.)

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THE NUTSHELL STORY CLUB by his entire family, Mr. Robinson again visited his

(CONTINUED PROM PAGE 12)

that it was some minutes before we found him, and in the meantime revived my acquaintance with his sister as best I could.

"Have you seen Diana?" she asked. "Jack told papa and me that we must see her, so we came with him this evening. Is she not a noble work of art?"

I followed the direction of her gaze, and there, ye Gods! crowned with electric light, and grasping bow and arrows, I saw the golden woman! The mystary was solved. The famous statue over-looking Madison Square garden, was she who had appeared to me above the fog in all her yellow splendor, and by the witchery of her gaze had

drawn me thither-where the witchery of another pair of eyes was making me a willing captive for life!

Diana's reign was over, but I still believe in her power, notwithstanding that certain residents of the World's Fair city have refused since then, to accept my golden goddess within their sacred precincts, on account of the scantiness of her

What else could it have been but a spell from her, that guided

me that evening to my old college chum, and to the dearest and most noble woman I have ever known? GRANVILLE SHARPE.

THE MYSTERIOUS VISITOR.

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N 1875 there lived Central Iowa a family named Robinson, consisting of father, mother and two boys aged respectively nine and twelve years.

In October Mr. Robinson received notice that his brother, living some thirty miles distant, was very ill and wanted to see him; and he left home expecting to be

The boys were old enough to take care of the stock, Mrs. Robinson was a courageous woman, and he had no reason to feel anxious for his family during his absence.

He reached his brother's home, and found him dan-gerously ill, but it was believed the crisis was passed and that he was mending. Mr. Robinson watched with his brother on the night after his arrival.

As he sat near the sick man's bed, a little, old woman suddenly entered the room. Mr. Robinson bowed to her, and while surprised at her presence, he supposed it was some neighbor who had come in.

"My brother is much better," said Mr. Robinson in a low voice. "You must go home,' answered the old woman

briefly.

"Who-me?" "Yes."

"But I came to take care of my brother."

You must be home by 10 o'clock to-morrow night." said the old woman.

What for?

She beckoned him away from the bed and whis pered:

"To-morrow night, three men will enter your house to rob and murder; you must go home."

"How do you know?" he asked. "They poisoned your dog to-night, and they are

now sleeping in your barn. To-morrow night there will be three of them. You must go."

"Charles, who is that woman?" asked the sick man, and Robinson turned to the bed to find his brother awake.

"I do not know," he answered.

He called his brother's wife, but she knew no such person, and said that the windows and doors were locked, so that the stranger must still be in the house.

A thorough search was made but no trace of her presence could be found.

The sick man said he had heard what she said, and insisted that his brother should go home as soon as possible.

At noon the next day Mr. Robinson started for home. He had to wait at a junction for several hours so that he could not reach home until ten

o'clock in the 'clock in the saing.

Added to his fears for the safety of his family was the thought of his brother, who was still very ill. Mr. Robinson could but hesitate in starting for nome with no better reason than the appearance of

this strange old woman with her startling message. When he reached his home station he told his story to the sheriff, who after some persuasion decided to

n and go home with him As they approached the house they were just in time to see two masked men clambering in at a kit-

then window, while the third was on guard outside

The robbers were speedily aptured, and then several points corrobo rative of the old woman's story were discovered.

The dog had lied suddenly,

with every evilence of having been poisoned. Two tramps had en noticed hanging about the place the day before, and two of the men were identified as the fellows.

After the excitement of the capture was over, Mr. Robinson began to feel anxious about his brother but that evening the little old woman again appeared, and sitting down beside him at the fireplace said:

"Your brother is much better, he will recover. You need give yourself no uneasiness about him."

"Who was that woman?" questioned Mrs. Robinson, "and how did she know about Frank?"

Her husband then told her of the warning he had received. Several days later, this time accompanied brother and found him much better. The story of the visits of the little old woman were discussed but could not be explained.

The brothers both vouch for the truth of this story, and although many years have passed the strange visitor has never reappeared, and her mysterious visits remain unexplained.

FRANK E. HAVENS.

The Mystery of the Chest.

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HAT'S that noise, Ellen? It's an unearthly sound." "Oh, it's the wind or something," answered Ellen Burt carelessly, but sent an apprehensive look over her shoulder in the

The two Burt girls had returned from college a few weeks before the night of this story, and were now alone in the house. Their parents, after much persuasion, had consented to go to a neighboring town to visit a friend and remain for the night.

They felt but little uneasiness in leaving the girls alone, as both Ellen and Cora were self-reliant young women, well used to depending upon them-

Besides this the house was situated in a retired place where tramps seldom came and where there was little to fear.

The girls were alone in the house, their only servant, Black Jane, slept in a log cottage some distance from the old farm house.

The girls passed the afternoon pleasantly, and when the darkness came on locked up the house and went to their own room.

The girls passed the afternoon pleasantly, and when the darkness came on looked up the house and went to their own room.

The silver and other valuables were kept in a closet in their mother's room, which communicated with theirs, and could not be reached otherwise without going through a long entry. The door opening into the entry they carefully bolted on the inside.

As the two girls entered their own room, Cora, the younger, was startled by a rustling sound.

They looked carefully around the room, examined the closets, and then deciding that it must be a mouse, began preparations for the night.

It was about midnight when Cora awakened; as she opened her eyes something that seemed like a shadow passed between her and the light. She sprang up without disturbing her sister and looked about the room but saw nothing.

She drew up the curtain and looked out on the lawn. Perfect quiet reigned everywhere, and finding nothing to verify her fears she returned to bed.

For some little time she lay awake watching a ray of light that drifted, shadowlike, along the wall.

Presently she saw the lid of an old chest that stood at one side of the room, slowly rise, and two threatening eyes framed in a mass of coarse hair, peered out.

Half-paralyzed with fear, the girl lay watching. In

out.
Half-paralyzed with fear, the girl lay watching. In a moment the lid of the chest lifted.
With a wild cry Cora sprang from the bed and rushing toward the chest forced down the lid with all her strength.
"Quick, Ellen, quick," she shouted, and in a moment her sister was beside her.
"For heavens sake Cora, what is it?"
"A thief—a murderer—hold hard, Ellen, or we shall be killed."

"A thief—a murderer—hold hard, Ellen, or we shall be killed."
The occupant struggled violently so that the stout old chest quivered, and one hinge gave way. But the girls succeeded in keeping the lid down, while their shrieks seemed to half confuse their captive. The nearest neighbor was half a mile away. There was no hope that Jane would hear them and come to their rescue. They were alone, and if the man should escape from the chest there was little doubt but that he would murder them both, thought Cora, as she held the lid down resolutely.

"Its funny he don't swear or say anything," said Ellen, after their captive had apparently ceased his struggles.

struggles.
A low murmur like a subdued growl came in answer.

A low murmur like a subdued growl came in answer.

All night long the two girls kept their station on the chest, and when Jane came with their hot water she found them pallid and trembling.

"What you a doin' on that chest. I s'pect you've shut down that lid so tight you've 'bout killed my dawg. I calculated on keepin' him there 'till mornin' 'thout any rumpus. Git up right off'n there.' And Black Jane lifted the lid the two girls had held down with all their might, and there lay a fair sized Newfoundland pup. He was so nearly stifled that it was sometime before he recovered his usual friskiness.

"My b'rer Sam brung him when you was out," explained Black Jane "an' I fixed him all up in the chist, with the lid open jest so he could breave. Sam said he was a quiet critter an' wouldn't make no noise. An' I calklisted on surprisin' you wif him. An' you chillun have 'bout killed him," and Jane tugged the almost lifeless body of her pet out of the room.

The two girls looked at each other in silence. At

room.

The two girls looked at each other in silence. At last with a long sigh of relief, Cora said:

"Well, I guess Jane did surprise us after all."

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illustrated herewith. Send 10 Cents in stamps, aliver or postal note, also a string and Fifty Songs, including Tara-ra-Bonder-ray, words and Fifty Songs, including Tara-ra-Bonder-ray, words and The W Complete Stories by the mest celebrated authors; The W Complete Stories by the mest celebrated authors; The Market Papers (tunnies book ever written), and the handsoming described above FREE. Address W. S. TRIGG, Publisher, 126 Danne Street, New York

Fill Your Own TEETH with Crystaline. Stops Circular free. T. F. TRUMAN, M. D., Wells Bridge, N. Y.

RUPTURE A positive radical Cure debug of the control of the contro

OVER 20 FULL LENGTH FIGURE STUDIES

(Specially adapted to Artists' Use), with 1893 list of Uncatalogued Studies sent to any address on receipt of 10 cts. RUBENS ART STUDIO, Augusta, Maine, U.S.A.

CATARRH CURED.

Look here, friend, do you suffer with Catarrh—are you constantly hawking and spitting—have you a running from the nose? If so, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Coryza Remedy Co., 2006—9th Ave. New York, and you will receive a recipe free of charge that will cure you of this dreadful disease.

NRUNKENNES S

FREE FRECTIPE

FOR THE SURE AND SEGRET CURE OF THE ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO CURSE. Tasteless, Harmless and Certain. Prescription sent FREE to wives or friends of inebrintes, or Tobacco users. A marvelous success in even advanced cases. Inclose stamp. Can be given secretly in coffee, etc.

Dr. HIRAM COOK, 12 Park Row. New York.

If you will send us within the next 30 days a photograph or a tintype of yourself, or any member of your family, living or dead, we will make you one of our finest \$25.00 life-size CRAYON PORTRAITS absolutely free of charge. This offer is made to introduce our artistic portraits in your vicinity. Put your name and address back of photo, and send same to Tanquerey Portrait Society, 74x DeKalb Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. References: Rev. T. DeWitt Talmadge, all newspaper publishers, Banks, and Express Companies of New York and Brooklyn. P. S.—We will forfeit \$100 to anyone sending us photo, and not receiving crayon figure Free as per this offer.

paper publishers, Banks, and Express Companies of New York and Brooklyn. P.S.—We will forfeit \$100 to anyone sending us photo, and not receiving crayon picture Free as per this offer.

From Agony to Bliss.



GIVEN UP TO DIE. I scarcely hoped to recover, I was so ple and miserable, but Oxien made a new man lso enabled me to abandon the tobacco habit w B.HULL, McCool, Miss. A NEW MAN.

DOCTORS FAILED. God bless Oxien, for it is the most remarkable medicine ever prepared. Its results were wonderful with my wife, who suffered two years with dreadful cough and nervous trouble for which the doctors could do nothing.
B. H. GREEN,
Lehmann, La. "GOD BLESS OXIEN."

EXPECTED TO DIE. I was not expe the terrible malarial pains in my head, back and chest. The use of the Oxien made me feel like a new man and I gained 29 pounds. FRANK E. WARBURTON, Pawtnoket, R.I.

GAINED 28 POUNDS.

CATARRH AND ASTHMA. Every Oxien does more good than all other medicines in t world put together. It has cured any number of ca of Catarrh, Asthma, Scrofula and female weakness



WAS GOING TO DIE. It was so sick that all thought I was going to die. One Giant box of Oxien enabled one to go about my work again. I don't wish to be without it, so please send me another box for enclosed \$1.00.

WM. E. GREEN, AT WORK AGAIN.



From Misery to Happiness.



TEARS OF AGONY. For over twenty years the nerves of my whole system had suffered from debility caused by a serious wound I received during the war. Two months ago I tried Oxien, and am astonished at its nervestrengthening powers. I highly recommend it to all suffering from nervous weakness. . D. S. WEAVER, Bradenville, Pa. Company B, 3d Battery. ISHUS.

Infantry. ASTONISHING RESULTS.

AFFLICTED 20 YEARS. May God always for Oxien. I never expected to find anything half so wonderful. I have no language to tell how happy and thankful I feel. After being afflicted for 20 years two boxes of Oxien made me young again.

W. F. ROGERS.

"GOD BLESS YOU."

SUFFERED 10 YEARS. My husband has suffered for ten years with indigestion and nervousness. Less than one Ginnt box of Oxien did him more good than anything he has taken in those ten years. It is indeed a wonderful medicine. Mrs. E. F. ALLGOOD, Petersburg, Va.

RHEUMATISM. It does just what you say it will. It cured me of rheumatism and sick headache. Enclosed you will find \$5.00 for which send me another lot. \$5.00 for which send me abouter to CHAS. BUELL,
Ridge Farm, Ill.

LIKE A NEW MAN.

p YEARS OF A GONY. After being under the doctor's care nearly nine years and receiving little benefit I tried Oxien. It has done wonders for me. One and a half boxes brought me good health and others here are receiving the same benefits from it. I enclose \$18.00 for another lot of this Wonderful Food and Plasters.

Mrs. Wm. BANTZ, Howe, Neb.



From Poverty to Riches.

One agent says: "In half an hour I have sold ten dollars worth (or at the rate of thirty thousand dollars year profit) and still they are coming for it. The Oxien Electric Porous Plasters are doing wonders here."

Not a day passes but what scores of letters like the foregoing resolt us from grateful men and women whose lives have been saved by any passes but what scores of letters like the foregoing resolt us from grateful men and women whose lives have been saved by any posterior fresh proof that Oxien is the Food which Scientists have searched for; the Medicine which doctors have longed for and the Entire which hopeless sufferest have prayed for. It gives—

NEW LIFE, NEW HOPE, NEW POWER, NEW VIGOR,

NEW STRENGTH.

NEW HAPPINESS.

It is a Godsend for the weak and weary; and a Godsend to thousands of Home Workers who are making fortunes introducing it to their friends and neighbors. Write at once for free samples and terms to agents and secure your territory.

A BIG OFFER

50c. MADE IN A MINUTE! If you will agree to show the Lucky Investment Booklet we send you with free samples to at least three feeble persons, we will send you in advance a 50 cent cash cert. This will trouble you but a minute, and as we pay in advance it is well for you to answer to day and also learn from our Dollars Booklet, sent under seal, facts about Copyrighted, 1892.

THE CIANT ONE CO. WILLIAM many from poverty to riches.

the two hundred and fifty Copyrighted, 1892.

Happenings Here, There M Yonder.

Forty-seven thousand girls are going to college this year.

Eighty-five per cent of people who are lame are affected on the left side.

During the time of George I of England the wedding ring was worn on the thumb.

There are reputed to be 119,000,000 of the big old copper pennies still in circulation.

Several towns in Massachusetts furnish free trans-portation for children to and from school.

Among London cab drivers there are a dozen bank-rupt land-owners, one baronet, and several ex-military officers.

Two young women swam across the Thames River, from Croton to Bragaws ways. They made the trip in just sixteen minutes.

A pest of frogs recently came upon the town of Lit-tle Falls, Minn. For several days the streets and sidewalks were covered with them.

Four children were burned to death at Missouri Valley, Iowa, as the result of their mother's attempting to refill a lighted gasoline stove.

A maple tree in Brunswick, Maine, shed all its leaves in July. In August the tree again put forth new leaves and was soon as thrifty as ever.

A man in Yarmouth, Maine, has a private volcano. There is a rocky hill on his farm that smokes and shakes and emits oil and gas. It awaits scientific investigation.

There is still burning in India a sacred fire that was lighted by the Parsees twelve centuries ago. The f e is fed with sandal and other fragrant woods, and replenished five times a day.

"...e largest electric search light in the world is now in progress of manufacture. It will be used at the top of the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor, and will be visible for 100 miles out at sea.

A meyor of a city in Pennsylvania sentenced two met, on the charge of drunkenness, to one hour in church. They wore escorted by two policemen, and ter hearing the sermon they signed the pledge.

Five Lapland reindeer in charge of a native in r, are on their way to this country. They are he property of Mr. Charles Gilliland of Ohio, and will be put in training for a trial of speed against

Isaac P. Monfort, an old gentleman who lives in Macomb, Ill., has the mare, Nell, that he drove all the way to Philadelphia in 1876 and he proposes driv-ing her in the procession at the dedication cere-nonies at the World's Fair in Chicago.

An ostrich ten feet high and large in proportion has just walked six hundred miles from Central Asia to Tierra Leone. This gigantic bird is the largest and finest ever known, and is a present to Queen Victoria from Alimany Samaden, the great Mohammedan Chief.

medan Chief.

A singular controversy over the naming of a child was settled in Providence, R. I., a short time ago. Two certificates were filed with the Registrar, one by the father and another by the mother. The father consulted a lawyer, who proved to the satisfaction of the City Solicitor that the father had the prior right.

A violent wind took control of a heavy freight train on the New Jersey Central Railroad. The engineer a dbrakeman, thinking the train was beyond help jumped from their posts. The fireman, John Conners, put on brakes and brought the train to a standstill after a six miles run.

The peasants near Berlin were greatly frightened recently at the sight of a balloon passing over. The people in the fields fell on their knees, groaning, "The cholera is coming." When the æronauts landed near the village the people fied to their houses shouting that they had seen death with his seythe in his

A process has been devised by which potatoes can be preserved. The potatoes ground, exposed to pressure to extract the moisture as far as possible, and then partially cooked. The substance so obtained makes good food for cattle. With boiling water added it makes a good soup. Or it can be mixed with flour to make bread.

A young lady in Cumberland, Mo., the other day shortened a corset string by burning it in two. The end smouldered and while she was in the street it was discovered that her underclothing was on fire. She managed to get to the house of a friend where she removed the burning clothing before she was scriously hurt herself.

Someone has figured out that the convex shows

seriously hurt herself.

Someone has figured out that the census shows there must of necessity be 4,720 bachelors out of every 100,000 men. In 1880 there were 5 States and territories in which the male population was more than twice the number of the female. The District of Columbia and Massachusetts have ten per cent more women then men.

In France recently a detachment of soldiers were thrown violently to the ground by a stroke of lighting. Most of them were able to rise again at once; but four were prostrated and one was killed. The men reported that they felt what seemed like a violent blow upon the back of the neck or on the legs and a sensation of burning.

Probably the greatest display of fireworks ever

and a sensation of burning.

Probably the greatest display of fireworks ever known was that on the Brooklyn Bridge on the evening of October 10th. It was seen by thousands from boats on the river or from the roofs of high buildings. One piece represented a cataract of fire as wide as the bridge is long. The whole display occupied two hours beginning at half past eight.

Near Schuylkill, Pa., the well-preserved body of a soldier of the Revolutionary Army was unearthed. The remains were dressed in the old Continental uniform, wrapped in a blanket and covered with successive layers of tar-cloth. The whole was in a remarkable state of preservation. The warrior was provided with side arms and a flint-lock musket, and these also were in good condition.

Lightning played a queer freak the other night at

also were in good condition.

Lightning played a queer freak the other night at the headquarters of a dog club on Long Island. The dogs were confined in enclosures made of wire. The rehains ran loosely on the wire, so that they could move freely without escaping. The lightning struck the wire, and around, and through their chains to the dogs. Nearly twenty of them were killed. Their appearance did not indicate that they had suffered any.

any.

For three days, beginning Oct. 10th, New York city gave itself up to holiday making to properly celebrate the four hundredth anniversary of the landing of Columbus. The city was profusely and handsomely decorated. The streets were crowded all the time with the citizens and visitors. There were four great processions and the stands on the line of march were crowded. There were said to be over seven hundred thousand visitors in the tity. Owing to the unfortunate illness of Mrs. Harrison the President was unable to attend the celebration.

tion.

Investigation proves that teas are not adulterated to so great an extent as formerly. Chicory is used as an adulterant of coffee, as well as wheat, rye, corn, peas and acorns. Manufacturers claim that an addition of thirty per cent of these 'pellets' to genuine coffee will make an equal drink to the straight coffee. Another method of adulterating coffee is to treat it, for the manufacture of coffee extract, after which the grains are roasted a second time, with the

deceptive glazing.

A European newspaper gives this startling account of an elephant's sagacity. This elephant was a circus performer, and was advertised to play the piano splendidly. He went three times round the ring, salaaming to the audience, and was then led to the piano. He touched the keyboard, and trembling with fear and rage rushed out of the arena. The manager explained to the audience that the elephant had recognized in the keyboard of the piano a portion of the tusks of his long-lost mother, who had fallen a prey to ivory-hunters. This story does not require any editorial comment.

A farmer living in the Catskills has been obliged to

any editorial comment.

A farmer living in the Catskills has been obliged to give up bee-keeping on account of the eccentricities of some of the members of his hives. He owns five horses, two of which are powerful and valuable farm horses. Toward one of these the bees showed great antagonism and dislike, stinging him severely whenever he was driven into the yard, though they never molested any of the other horses or animals on the place. Finding that it was necessary to either sell his horse or give up his bees, the farmer finally concluded to do the latter, and he now drives his horse in peace and buys his honey.

William Thompson, City Assessor of Camden, N.

in peace and buys his honey.

William Thompson, City Assessor of Camden, N.
J., had a narrow escape from death a short time ago.
One Saturday he had occasion to seek a document in
the great air-tight, fire-proof vault in the City Hall.
The janitor's assistant, ignorant of the fact that Mr.
Thompson had entered the safe, closed and locked
the door without seeing the occupant. Mr. Thompson shouled but his voice did not reach beyond the
iron walls of his cage. Fortunately Thompson was
wanted punctually elsewhere. He had been known
to enter the clerk's office, and was last seen there.
This fact led to the suspicion that he might be in the
vault. When taken out he was unconscious and
nearly suffocated.

Colorado City began boying for water about six

nearly suffocated.

Colorado City began boring for water about six years ago. The drill went down 1,200 feet. It didn't strike good drinking water, but it struck petroleum, eighty feet of rock salt, and other things. After a while somebody thought of making use of the salt. The hole was bored deeper. It struck fresh water. A pump was put down. A windmill was erected above the pump. The wind raised the salt water, which was run into a reservoir. The sun did the rest. Colorado City had salt. Other wells have been bored, windmills have been erected in rows until Don Quixote might think he saw a whole army defying him. Manual labor is necessary to take up the salt and barrel it, that is all. Colorado City sends out several hundred carloads each month.

INSTANTANEOUS PHOTOGRAPHS.

A new style trick camera given away. Ask a friend to look in camera and you will take his picture, withdraw the slide and there is where the foke comes in by using this universal fun maker; it is ingeniously constructed, has celluloid slide with real camera appearance, and sells by the thousands. Morse & Go., Augusta, Maine, have hundreds of new articles in 1893 Catalogue and will send this great Phôtographer free if you enclose 3c. for mailing. You are then told how to obtain many new novelties and useful presents without costing you a cent.

THE MYSTIC CASTLE

Y DEAR MYSTIC FRIENDS:

To have a pleasant chat over puzzle affairs, to study and solve the large batch of "Mystic bettes," which Oldeastle has brought with him this month, and to extend a hearty invitation to all to join us in our pleasing and instructive pastime of composing and solving puzzles, are we, the members of the "Mystic Band, gathered together. Let many accept this invitation, and every member endeavor to interest one or more friends so as to swell our numbers and increase enthusiasm in this direction. The more the merrier. Send original puzzles for publication, also solutions to the puzzles below to Oldeastle, Comfort, Utica, N. Y., and your name will be entered upon the roll of the Mystic Band. If you cannot solve all the puzzles, solve what you can and due credit will be given.

puzzles, solve what you can and due ereds. The given.

The Fisherman's Outfit offered as a prize, for the first correct solutions to August's Mysteries, is awarded to Ypsie, hers being the only correct list received. The puzzles, though few in number were very difficult.

We want at least one hundred lists of solutions to the large assortment of puzzles presented this month. Let all our friends respond and increase the number three-fold.

Lomax. Leander and Lalla Rokh:—Thanks for puz-

Lomax, Leander and Lalla Rokh:—Thanks for puz-

Lomax, Leander and Lalla Rokh:—Thanks for puzzles sent. Come often.
Oldcastle wishes to acknowledge the receipt of the following departments and thank their respective editors, "Tangled Rags," "Materia Mystica," "Intricacies," "Our Mystic Sowers" and "Mystic Links."
All are very fine and receive good support.
Perhaps many of the mystic friends have some new contests in mind which they would like to suggest for trial in "The Mystic Castle." If so, send them along. A nice prize will be awarded for the best one. We would be glad to hear from many of the older members of our band, who have been silent of late. Rouse ye, mystic knights!
Puzzlers will please observe the following requests. Do not write with lead pencil. Always date your letters and lists of solutions and sign your name every time you write. Devote a separate sheet of paper to each puzzle and write on one side of the paper, only.

paper to each puzzle and write on one side of the paper, only.

The puzzles this time are from some of our best contributors and are very interesting. Let us now turn our attention to them, and try our best to correctly solve each one.

Wishing you all success, I bid you good-bye till we meet again. Your dear old mystic friend,

SOLUTIONS TO AUGUST'S MYSTERIES.

No. 333. Rams-gate. No. 334. (General Albert Sidney) Johnston. (Dr. amuel) Johnson. (Ben) Jonson.

MYSTERIES. Do. 358. Numerical. whole, composed of 17 letters, is the Blessed

Thistle.

My 7, 16, 10 is a luminous orb.

My 17, 15, 2, 3 is a luminous body.

My 11, 4, 13, 1, 15 is law.

My 14, 6, 3, 9 is to heal.

My 8, 6, 12 is to put forth.

Providence, R. I.,

No. 361. Double Letter Enigma.

NUISANCE.

In "musical tones."
In "short ends."
In "loving ones."
In "dear friends."
Whole is a desire of happiness.
Seaton, Oregon,
No. 362. Inverted Pentagon.

1. A large ship of burden. 3. One who continues. 3. Brought to perfection. 4. An animal whose feet are not apparent. 5. Those of a religious order who

addition of a little sugar to cover the berries with a deceptive glazing.

A European newspaper gives this startling account of an elephant's sagacity. This elephant was a circum and the sagacity of an elephant was a circum and the sagacity. This elephant was a circum and the sagacity of the sagacity

1. A letter. 2 To cover the top. 3. Narrow roads.
4. Mischief artfully performed. 5. Whimsical. 6.
An optic glass (rare.) 7. A thin kind of satin. 8.
Small copper coin used in the East Indies. 9. A pert townsman. 10. A letter.
Ardmore, Pa.,
No. 364. Charade.

Ardmore, Pa., No. 364. Charade.

Old, wrinkled and poor,
She sits at her door,
And prime is all she can do;
As she sits in the sun,
When her labor is done,
Total she eats, thankfully too.
Washington D. C.,
No. 365. Concealed Anagram.

The fire does not give out much heat, I'm cold. The
old mice of the stove is broken. Come, Thilda, with
the metalic hod. Now stir the dim coal. When the fire
burns well, we will have some hot medical preparation. O calm Edith, admit Chlos to me; a child of old
Lamech. Do it quickly and then prepare the clam
diet. Oh, yes, bring the turkey too, we will eat him
cold. Now I am clothed and fed, and walking by the
calm tide. Oh! here comes the coll! Head 'im; guide
him to the col; lead him into the yard; harness and
load him etc.
Hopkinswille, Ky..

Hopkinsville, Ky.,

Nos. 366-7. Star.

Nos. 366-7. Star.

(1) 1. A letter. 2. Two-fifths of stove. 3. Pertaining to the Puritans. 4. Introduces. 5. A river of France. 6. European city. 7. To fall back. 8. Thus. 9. A letter.

New Castle, Ohio,

No. 368. Transposition.

No. 368. Transposition
Bait your hook,
Throw out your line,
And catch a fish for me.
Behead the fish,
And then transpose
A pirot you will see.
Rockport, Me.,
No. 369. Crossword.

F. I. DONT.

No. 369. Crossword.
We are found with "Jennie Mowry"
And "Always" found with "Ray,"
Also with "Marion Stevens"
And in "R. O. Chester's lay,"
"Old Pete" often thinks of us,
And so does "Hercules";
Then comes "Bennie Factor"
Along with "Remardo's D's."
"Aspiro's sends along the "flats"—
All contribute their best,
To complete now before you
In our ever welcome guest.
Grafton, Ills.

Nos. 370-1. Diamond.

Nos. 370-1. Diamond.

(1) 1. A letter. 2. A beating. 3. Small river fishes. 4. To loathe. 5. A species of coarse grass. 6. A genus of lizards. 7. Mischievous. 8. Long since. 9. Petrific. 10. A happy conception. 11. A letter. Poultney, Vt., GUARDINEER.

Nos. 372-4. Hexagon. (1) 1. A small room. 2. Approbation. 3. Certain animals. 4. Gold foil. 5. A torn rag. 6. A vapor. 7. Weapons. Docorah. Iowa, MERLIN.

No. 375. Inverted Pyramid.

Across. 1. Anime. 2. Appoints. 3. A wealthy man. 4. A kind of dry goods with a corded surface. 5. A letter.

Down. 1. A letter. 2. A Turkish arrow. 3. A spore-case. 4. To intrust. 5. Disorder. 6. At the top. 7. Rebell (abbr.) 8. A verb. 9. A letter.

Newport, N. Y.,

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

For the first three complete or largest lists of solutions to this month's "Mysteries," the following prizes will be awarded:—1. Mammoth Stamping Outlit. 2. A years's subscription to COMPORT. 3. Ten complete novels.

Specials.—Two six months subscriptions to COMPORT will be awarded by lot among the rest of the solvers.

Solutions, solvers and prize winners in February "Mystic Castle."

SILK AND SATIN RIBBONS GIVEN AWAY.

SILK AND SATIN RIBBONS GIVEN AWAY. We have a special Premium Bargain Offer this month in the way of Ladies' wear. Desiring to get all the yearly subscribers we can to start the New Year with we will give one of our regular packages of Picot and Crown Edge Ribbons of latest and fashionable style shades for only two yearly subscribers to Comport at 25c. each. As these packages contain a variety of different lengths from one yard each and upward, for hat and bonnet ties, bows, scarfs, etc., etc. this offer is especially rare at this time, and will only package that we will also give one each of for two yearly subscribers, or if 6 subscribers are obtained at one time we will send all three packages, all charges paid. Address, Publishers of Comport, Augusta, Me.

50 PIAMOND RINGS FREE: \$50 CASH TO BE GIVEN AWAY!

The FIRST fifty person of this advertisement will receive one of the 18-k. SOLAD ROLLLD GOLD Go. UNE Chemical DIAMOND RING.

The Signature of UNE Chemical DIAMOND as per this illustration. Mea finger with a plece of a string. OND fifty persons answering vertisement will receive \$1. My reason for making the eral proposition is simply to many epocialtic. er, and I shall mail to you a N BOX OF PERFUMERY



W. S. SIMPSON, 37 College Place, New York City.

REE \$500.00 DEATH OR ACCIDENT.

Send stamps for information. Address, HOME CIRCLE PUB. CO., 29 Park Row, New York.

Health, Strength, Vigor.

Young men cured and instructed bow to retain health through life. Old men made to feel young, strong and full of vigor. If you are weak, nervous, broken down in health and strength, I will tell you how to get well and keep well. CURE YOURSELF! Send your name and address with stamps to name and address with stamps to L.S.FRANKLIN, Music Dealer, Marshall, Mich

WATCH TO BOYS AND GIRLS UNDER 18 FREE 45 SIGNOCIALS. NO MORE Y REQUIRED, TO NOTE TO STOLE AND STOLE TO STOLE AND STOLE TO STOLE AND STOLE TO STOLE AND STOLE AND

MAGIC LANTERNS AND VIEWS For Sale and Wonted For Sale and For Sale and For Sale and For Sale For Sale and For Sal

WE WILL PAY YOU Write quick, as we Address J. E. SHEPARD & CO., [Established 1872.] Cincinnati, G.

A Typewriter Given Away.

A Typewriter Given Away.

A manufacturer has placed a new style Typewriter in our hands to introduce and we are going to give one Thousand away to advertise the machines by having people show them to friends. The style type used is same as on high priced machines. Any one wishing one sent to them to keep or sell is as a malter of good faith only required to forward us two yearly subscribers to "Comfort" at 25c. and we send the machine all charges paid. Those writing first to blorse & Co., Augusta, Maine, will be sure of getting a machine early, and as Typewriting is the coming business for young people to engage in this is a rare offer for them.

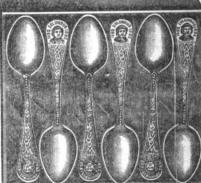
WONDERFUL WALKING DOLLS.



A MARVELOUS MECHANICAL CURIOSITY

A MARVELOUS MECHANICAL CURIOSITY has lately been invented in the doll line. There are no springs to be wound or other encumbering contrivances to get out of order. A simple scientific appliance. They walk naturaly and alone as if by some hidden force. Not only are children delighted, but even the happy boy and girlhood days are brought back to the older ones who shake their sides and simply roar to see the Great Race of Races as these dolls representing the various male and female characters of different nations are started across the room or table. The life-like manner in which they seem to run past each other in the mad haste to win, or marching single file, tripping each other up or executing other comical feats. The contrast of the different colored jackets or suits, while the Soldier, Chinaman, Negro or little bollie herself speeds along, adds much to the novelly and enjoyment of the whole family of lookers on. We have secured the right to introduce this wonderful family to the millions all over the Union. To do so quickly and relying on future large sales for our profit, we will send one FREE all charges paid, to anyone sending 25 cents for a 6 months subscription or renewal to our beautiful magazine. Any kind of dolls always please the children but Genuine Walking Dolls are a joy forever. Address PUBLISHERS OF COMFORT, Augusta, Maine, A year's subscription and 2 dolls 50 cents each and we send you 3 dolls all different FREE.

Columbus Souvenir Silver Spoons Free.



sools for the manufacture of these goods we are enabled to offer them free as premiums to all new subscribers to Home Dheer a sixteen page standard monthly publication for he family circle, and published at 50 cents a year. Not only do we give these spoons as presents but we will engrave nit als of subscribers on the spoons or the initials of any ady or Gent vou may desire to make a present to. In addition to all this we give you a chance to win one of the ollowing prizes by sending a correct solution to the What.

following prizes by sending a correct solution to the following:
What word in this Advertisement spells the same Backward as Forward.
We will give \$300 Cash to the 1st person sending a correct answer. To the 2d, 1000; to the 3d, \$50; to the 4th, an elegant Diamond Ring. To each of the next 10, a Scantiful \$25 Silk Dress, To the next 10, a Beautiful \$25 Silk Dress, To the next 25, a Nickel or Gold-Plated Watch. To each of the next 104, a Genuine Diamond Ring. To each of the next 104, a valuable Business or House Lot.
This extraordinary offer is made for the purpose of securing 100,000 new subscribers, and in order to secure this premium you are required to send 50 cents for one year's subscription to Home Cheer. Statethe initials you desire

ring 100,000 new subscribers, and in order to secure this premium you are required to send 50 cents for one year's subscription to Home Cheer. Nate the initials you desire engraved and enclose 10 cents extra or 60 cents in all to cover subscription, postage and packing expenses. Don't forget to send solution as to what word in this advertisement spells the same backward as forward as you are likely to get one of the above prises and may win \$300.

CLUHS.—If you send usefue subscriptions and \$3,00 we. Will send an extra subscription for yourself and six spoons. No notice taken of letters which do not enclose money for subscription.

Send money by postal note, registered letter or 64 cents in stamps. Address,

KENTON SMITH & CO., 27 Beekman St., N. Y.



A GENUINE PRIZE.

"COM FORT" has at last succeeded in getting an article from Berlin that millions will want, but as only one thousand came along first, we are going to give away one to every subscriber who sends in a club of six more yearly subscribers at 25 cents each. It will take less than haif an hour to secure this beautiful all Brass Telescope, in this way, and you can sell it for several dollars. They have sold as high as 25 or 810. We do not "COM FOR They have sold as high as 25 or 810. We do not another million homes, so take this short cut to do it, and give you the profit. It will make a grand holiday present, and so no Telescope. You get it abso-



EAR COUSINS:

I suppose you will be cooking your Thanksgiving dinners before so very long now, but I
have great confidence in your skill as housekeepers, and so shall not give you any recipes
for the plum pudding and tarkey dressing this
year. It has been quite a number of years that
we have been meeting together now, and most of you
must know my ways pretty well by this time. I like
to leave the column entirely in your hands, and let
you exchange ideas, while I stand by and learn with
the rest. We will hear from a good many this month;
and first from the Pine Tree State, where there are
some good cooks, as I can personally testify.

EASY MADE CAEE.

I cup molasses, I cup sugar, I cup sour milk, 2-3 cup butter, I teaspoon soda, spice to taste. Bake I hour. Two or 3 eggs improve it, also raisins or a cup of dried apples out in small pieces and stewed in molasses. The apple should be previously soaked over night.

The apple should be previously soaked over night.

JOHNNY CAKE.

2-3 corn meal, 1-3 flour, 2-3 sweet milk, 1-3 sour. Mix the meal and flour well together, then stir it into half the milk; beat it well to get the lumps out while it is thick, add the rest of the milk, salt and soda. To the above add as much molasses as you can afford, and some beef suct cut in small pleces, and you will have an old-fashioned suct oake.

C. L. SKILLIN, Preque Isle, Maine.

O. L. SKILLIN, Freque Isie, maine.

POTATO CROQUETTES.

2 cups cold mashed potatoes free from lumps, 2 eggs beaten to a froth, 1 tablespoon melted butter, salt and pepper to taste; form into cakes, roll in beaten egg, then in eracker crumbs, and fry in hot lard.

It will soon be cold enough to think of making candy, and here is a recipe.

10E CREAM CANDY.

2 cups cold water, 2 cups white sugar, 2 teaspoons baking powder, piece of butter size of an egg. Boil until it hardens when dropped into cold water, and pull.

COLORADO BLUE BELL.

nuth it hardens when dropped into cond water, and pull.

WHAT ONE GIRL SAID.

I am only 13 years old, but perhaps I can tell something that will help some one. For the housekeeper who hasn't any molding board, take an old sheet, double it four times, which leaves it square, flour it well, and the dough will not adhere. When you are through, roll it up, and it is ready for next time. For TABLE MATS

ent them out of pasteboard, making them in fancy patterns around the edge; make oblong ones for the platters. As pasteboard is plenty, when one is soiled burn it and make others. These prevent heating the table, and save washing doylies. For a SOAP DISH, take a little pail such as tea comes in, bend the cover up instead of down around the edge, punch holes in it and the water from the soap will run through into the pail, which can then be emptied. C. R. F.

Deaf Cousin Ceres:—Will you let me in again with

pan, waten can then be emptied.

C. R. F.

Deaf Cousin Ceres: — Will you let me in again with a few recipes? I have visited your department once before; and like it better than any other part of the paper. For what is better than something nice to eat? Here is a recipe for

CRHAM TOAST.

Make some dry toast, have a saucepan of milk boiling, into which put quarter pound of butter, stir into this sufficient flour or corn starch (already wet with cold milk) to make it as thick as rich cream. Dip each slice of toast into this. Put into a deep dish and pour the cream over it.

Pare and core a score of codlino.

Pare and core a score of codling apples; beat them in a mortar with a pint of cream; strain into a dish, and put sugar, bread crumbs and a glass of wine to it.

Stir it well.

Stir it well.

CIDER CAKE.

1 cup of butter, 2 cups sugar, 3 eggs beaten separately, 3-4 cup of cider, 4 cups flour, I teaspoonful (seant) of sods, I teaspoonful spice. Mix wods and spice with flour, then mix in the order given, and beat the schollaw name. spice with flour, then bake in 2 shallow pans.

spice with flour, then mix in the order given, and bake in 2 shallow pans.

Make a crust as for pies and roll 1-4 of an inch thick; cut out with a saucer sized cutter; put the fruit on half of the circle folding the other half over it; wet the inside edges so they will stick togother. If the fruit used be thinly silced apples, sprinkle them with a little sugar and cinnamon; add a small piece of butter and a tablespoonful of water before folding over the crust; but if berries are used flour, sugar and butter should be used. When ready for the oven brush them with the white of an egg. They will require from 20 to 30 minutes to bake. When done dust with powdered sugar.

BLIEN DELAM, Dodge, Walker Co., Texas.

VEGHTABLE STEW.

12 potatoes cut in halves or quarters, 6 onions, 1 carrot chopped fine, 10s. of butter, a little parsely chopped, a little pepper and salt, a pint of water; let all boil till the vegetables are quite done but not broken. Stew the onions before adding the other vegetables.

CRUMB PIES.

Line 4 pie plates with his crust and fill with the

vegetables.

ORUMB PIES.

Line 4 pie plates with pie crust and fill with this mixture: Mix together I cup molasses, I cup hot water, I teaspoonful sods; divide this in the 4 plates. Then make the crumbs as follows: 4 cups of flour, I cup of sugar, nearly a cup of lard; mix well and crumb. Then distribute all in the pie plates. The crumbs will settle into the mixture and some remain on the top.

on the top.

POTATO PRITTERS.

Boil and peel 6 large potatoes, mash them well and add 4 well beaten eggn, a little cream or milk, chopped parsely (onions if preferred), sait and pepper, and mix the whole together. Raise on the end of a knife about a teaspoonful of this batter and drop it into a pan of boiling lard or butter, when the paste will swell and form a light, round fritter.

SOALLOPED POTATORS.

Slice raw potatoes, then place them in a baking dish, seasoning each layer with salt, pepper, bits of butter and a dust of flour until the dish is nearly full. Fill up with milk. Bake I hour until the potatoes are

Miss L. G. GRAMM, Cordelia, Penn.

COTTAGE PUDDING (Excellent.)
Beat together 1 cup sugar and 1 tablespoonful of utter, 2 eggs, 1-2 cup of sweet milk, 11-2 cups flour, teaspoonful of baking powder. Eat with sweetness ream or milk. Miss Delia Barron, Toulon, Ills.

Cream or mile.

GINGRE WAPERS.

1 cup molasses; set it on the stove and let it come to a boil. Add 1 tablespoon butter, remove from the stove, add 1-2 teaspoon ginger put in flour until it is harder than pie crust, roll very thin and cut in squares; bake in a moderate oven.

JENNY LIND CARB.

1 cup sugar, 2 cups flour, 1 egg, 1 cup milk
ize of a hen's egg, 2 teaspoons baking powder cup milk, butter

TOMATO STEW.

Put 1 tablespoon butter into a skillet; when it sissles, add a scant half teacup flour; when it is slightly browned, put in the tomatoes. A 2 lb. can is sufficient for a family of four. Add 1-2 cup sugar, 1-2 teaspoon sait, and a little pepper.

To REMOVE INK STAINS FROM TABLE LINEN. Take clean blotting paper, or cotton batting, and gently sop up all the ink that has not soaked in. Then pour a little awest milk on the spot, and soak it up with fresh batting. It may need to be renewed several times, fresh milk and batting being used each

time, and the spot will disappear. Then wash with clean soap-sads, and rub with a clean cloth. If the ink has been allowed to dry in, the milk must remain longer, and be renewed many times.

Cousing, who can tell me what will take blackberry stains out or aprons, napkins, etc.?

M. A. J.

HAM OMELET.
Chop 1-2 lb. of ham fine, add 4 well-beaten eggs, spinch of salt, fry brown in butter.
R. M.

Many thanks to all who have sent recipes.

COUSIN CERES, (Care of COMFORT.)

ONLY AN OLD HAIR TRUNK.

BY T. E. WILLSON.

THE sun had gone down behind the hills, but the peaks of the western mountains were still bathed in sunlight and covered with that glory no painter's brush can reproduce. The shadow that had failen covered the small but quaint and pictureque farm-house to its chimney-top and stretched across closely cropped green meadow-land and up the sloping hillside, its yellow stubble taking a golden tint that deepened at the edges of the irregular swaths, as if labor had set its signature upon the field.

The sunlight still danced in the topmost branches of the tall manual that such states.

The sunlight still danced in the topmost branches of the tall maple that stood on the crest when a wagon was driven slowly up the little lilac-lined lane that led to the barn. Before the wheels could have been heard by any but an anxious and waiting car, a sweet-faced woman whose hair alone betrayed the fact that she was far beyond the middle age came to the door and was at the side of the wagon as the driver slowly descended.

"Don't grieve, father," she said, taking his hand. "The darkest cloud has a silver lining. We have Dick still."

"And that's all, mother," he replied, with a catch in his voice.

"And that's all, mother," he replied, with a catch in his voice.

in his voice.

The woman's sensitive face puled and seemed to grow older in a moment, for though her husband's manner had shown that his mission had failed, some hope had still remained despite her brave words, and, while expecting the blow that would deprive them of the house and land upon which both had lived since childhood, there had been expectation that some way out of it might be found or that the blow might be in some way softened.

out of it might be found or that the blow might be in some way softened.

"Then Nichols would not give you time?"
"Not a day. He is mercless, and the sale will take place Saturday. He must have the cash, he says, on Saturday, and will only sell for money down. Williams is away in New York. I saw every one who might be able to let me have the money, but none could lend so much by Saturday. He will buy it himself. Barker says he can get the money for me in ten days, but when I asked Nichols to give me one more week, he replied that he had not forgotten his oath if I had."

week, he replied that he had not forgotten his oath if I had."

"The villain!" said the woman indignantly. "But is it legal, father?" she asked. "Can he rob us of a farm worth six times the mortgage and have the law on his side?"

"I asked Squire Andrews, and he went over the papers carefully. 'He has planned his vengeance well,' Andrews said. 'Every legal form has been complied with,' and he added that I would be morally, but not legally, justified in shooting him."

"Poor Dick!" said the mother. "Come, father, the house is ours for three days longer anyway. Something may happen. Let us talk of other things. Supper is ready and Dick is coming across the field."

While talking the light wagon had been put in the carriage-house and the horse had been fed and watered.

It was easy to see that the bright-faced, broad-

carriage-house and the horse had been fed and watered.

It was easy to see that the bright-faced, broadshouldered young man who met them at the door was their son and that he was a "mother's boy." His arm fell naturally around her waist, and he stopped to kiss her as they passed into the kitchen.

"Well, Mimi, are you ready to feed a bear after his Winter's sleep?" he asked playfully. "Why, mother, there are tears in your eyes! Father, what is the matter?" he asked as for the first time he saw his drawn, set face.

His mother's arms were around his neck, and she was crying softly on his breast.

"It means, Dick, that Nichols bought the mortgage from Secor before he went to Mexico; it was due, as you know, for four years, but Nichols did not want the money and wished to let it run on, as I needed it more than he did. Secor knew that Nichols was my son-in-law, and from what Nichols said supposed he wanted to clear it off. Secor told Jim Ferguson that he was going to do it."

"Secor did not know how he treated Nellie?" asked Dick.

"No." was the weary reply. "Even you. Dick don't

he was going to average "Second do not know how he treated Nellie?" asked Dick.

"No," was the weary reply. "Even you, Dick, don't know that when I brought Nellie home—a wreck, dying from his brutal treatment—that he swore an oath to have revenge on me and mine, because I would not let him take her back to the city to die. He hated her because she would not help him in his wickedness, and when he saw her days were numbered, told her that she would never see one of us while she lived and none of us would know where she was buried when she was dead. A friend of hers wrote to me. I went to New York and brought her home. When he came, in hot haste for her, I kicked him out. You were only a little lad of five then, his revenge."

home. When he came, in hot haste for her, I kicked him out. You were only a little lad of five then. Dick. He has waited all these years and now he has his revenge."

"But how, father? We can easily pay off the 51,20 in a week or ten days."

"He has given me the legal thirty days' notice by publication in the Bloomfield 'Register,' which never comes to this post-office. Mrs. Winters saw it yesterday and sent me word. The sale is for Saturday. He requires spot cash. No one can get \$1,200 in so short a time, and he will hay it himself."

The young man's eyes blazed. "If he does—if he dares to show himself—I will put a bullet in him."

The mother's arms were around him. His father laid his hand upon his shoulder.

"Leave him to God, Dick; don't make our burden harder than we can bear. Let us have our buy for the few years yet left to us."

"Remember Susie," sobbed the mother.

The young man conquered his emotion, kissed his mother and shook his father's hand—the Anglo-Saxon caress between males. Women kiss; men shake hands.

"I will do nothing rash; nothing to bring you additional worry; but if I meet him he will have to keep his temper. Come, let us try your biscuits, Mimi, and forget for the moment."

The form of a meal was gone through with, but the talk drifted into the only subject that any one could think about.

"Dick, you haven't said a word about your marriage. It is two weeks from to-day. We will have no home for Susie to come to."

Dick smiled for his mother's benefit and answered brightly: "Never mind that, Mimi. It will have to be postponed for a little while. Don't worry about that."

"But, Dick, it may make a great difference to Susie," said his father. "You will no longer have a

that."
"But, Dick, it may make a great difference to Susic," said his father. "You will no longer have a snug farm at your back, and you may have to wait a year or two before you can get forchanded enough to marry. Will Susie be willing to wait and take the chances when she can have her cousin Will, who is rioh?"

chances when the can have an index index in index:

"Susie is as true as steel, dad. Will Hartshorn cannot take her from me," said Dick, laughing lightly. "We may not be able to marry for a year or two, but we are both young and life is before us. Don't fret on our account. I must go over and tell hav."

Don't ret on our account. I must go over and tell her."

It was not 10 when he returned, but it was the first time in many months that both his parents had been found up at that hour. Traces of tears on their checks showed that the subject of conversation had not been changed.

"Susie will wait," he replied to his mother's unspoken question, "until I have made a home for us three and it has grown big enough for her to enter. I say what she said. She won't marry me till I have. Our marriage is postponed for a year. She will work in the rubber factory and help me. Her uncle has been appointed manager, and was out to see her yesterday to see if he could get her as his chief clerk. He wants some one who understands bookkeeping, shorthand and telegraphy, and offered her \$12 per week. She refused, of course, but she has written tonight accepting it. You see, dad, she didn't waste her time, as you thought, in learning those accomplishments last year. Her investment of \$120 will the mother laid her hand upon his arm.

the bridge. It's quite as comfortable as this, and we will soon forget all about this trouble. You are only fretting for us, and Susie says you must not and shall not. Susie's word is law to mother and me; and, father, will you not do what we three want you to?"

"Dick," said his father with deep feeling, "I should have named you Benjamin. Susio will make a good wife. I take back all I said about her apending money. She was wiser than I, but I didn't think it was woman's work."

"Even her spending \$4 for cancelled postage stamps?" saked Dick, mischievously.

"Well," said his father, with a smile and a shake of the head, "that was a vanity. Twenty-five cents for a yard of ribbon I can understand, but 25 cents for an old one-cent postage stamp which I bought new only a few years ago for a cent I cannot understand. It hink it would be more natural for a pretty girl to spend her money for ribbons than for little pieces of soiled paper."

"She says that her collection, which cost her less than \$20, can be sold any day to a dealer for \$35 and that he will sell it again for \$100. The stamps she paid 25 cents each for are now sold for \$1.25 and \$1.50. She intends to sell them all to have a nest-egg to start with."

"I don't want a better girl than Susie for a daughter. I always said that, Dick. That there stamp

that he will sell it again for \$100. The stamps she paid 25 cents each for are now sold for \$1.25 and \$1.50. She intends to sell them all to have a nest-egg to start with."

"I don't want a better girl than Susie for a daughter. I always said that, Dick. That there stamp business was the only vanity I ever knew in her, but she has a right to some vaulty. She has the Lockwood grit and truth. Let us ask God to bless her."

At noon the next day Mrs. Perris asked Dick to give her an hour's help in the garret, as she wished to go over the accumulated rubbis of a century to see what would be worth moving.

"What is in this old hair trunk, mother?" asked Dick, as he sorted out the relies of five generations.

"That was your Aunt Scliny's. It's full of letters and papers. All her husband's love-letters are there, for she saved all the letters that he ever received, and he did a big business till he failed. Scliny was a little queer. He was a great scholar, was Jack. He went to college and was a professor when he courted Scliny. His letters read like a book, and Seliny was very proud of them."

Dick opened the moth-eaten, cowhide-covered little trunk, in its time as much a source of pride as any genuine alligator skin one is now to its possessor. There on top, as if put in last, was a bundle of letters, tied with a faded ribbon. Dick took out one with some curiosity. It was written before envelopes were in common use, and the address was on the middle fold of the letter itself, the edges of which had been turned into one another and scaled.

"Mother, may I come up?" called a clear sweet voice from the stairway, but without giving time for a reply the speaker appeared and was clasped in Mrs. Ferris arms. She seemed to bring the sunshine which that instant came pouring through the high side window, failing full upon the little trunk and covering it with a golden glory.

"O susie, Susie!" was all Mrs. Ferris could say, and she held her tightly. For a moment Susie talked for both. She had come for that feminine which that i

is that you have in your hand?" She bent over to look at it with manifest curiosity. He handed it to her.

"It's only an old love letter from Uncle Jack to Aunt Selina." She was only looking at the superscription, her face paling and flushing.

Hysteria again glanced in at the window.

"Do you know what's worth?" she asked with an effort. "Have you many of these, that you treat them so carclessly?"

"No." said Dick. "Is it a stamp not in your collection? It is only a very little one, only half the usual size, and I wish it were larger, but you are twice welcome to it, and that ought to count." As she did not answer he added, with a burlesque of generosity. "Keep it, Susie, even if ti's one of those that are worth a whole dollar to collectors. I don't know where to sell it, even for a cent. Put it in your book." His voice and manner at another time would have roused great mirth, but no answering smile appeared on Susie's face.

"It's one I never hoped to own," she replied gravely. "This little piece of paper is worth over \$400. It's a Brattleboro five-cent stamp on the original letter back. The only one that was supposed to be in the world was sold last month for \$676. Any dealer would give you \$250 at sight for this."

"Are you quite sure?" asked Mrs. Ferris, wonderingly.

"Are you quite sure?" asked mrs. Ferris, ingly.
"Yes; I know it. Where did it come from?"
Dick led her to the open trunk. With a gasp an sob she kneit down beslde it and with flushing face and trembling hands began to sort out the letters into little heaps. Dick had not spoken, but watched her eagerly. The same thought, perhaps not perfectly formulated, had come to each.
Those most carefully examined were placed in her

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\$15. vice soud: sthe name addressed the per-onsintheir RUPTURE

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BOOK

lap, and by the time the last bundle had been hastily gone over soless than ninety werelying there. Then she bent over, put her face in her hands and began sobbing. Mrs. Ferris and Dick tried to comfort her. Dick's efforts were the more effectual. "Never mind, my sweetheart," he whispered, "think of it only as a dream. It won't pay the mortgage, but it will pay rent should we need it. Let us thank God for what He gives us."

Ky a strong effort of will she raised a tear-stained, radiant face, shining with delight.

"You don't understand. The mortgage is paid. The farm is saved. O. Dick! O, mother!"

When her emotions had subsided, and in reply to their eager questions, she took the selected letters and explained the treasure.

"Here are two used Brattleboros on letter-backs, worth almost any price, but a dealer will pay \$250 cach. For these eight Sit. Louis stamps he will give, say, \$126. Its will sell them for four times that. This set of three on one letter is alone worth more than \$125. Here are six New Havens, the first I ever heard of. The genuine signed reprints sell for \$15 cach. Put them at \$100. These two 30-cent stamps of 1869—notice that the shield is upside down—are thirteen red horsemen I-cent stamps of 1861, worth \$30 and would bring \$100 at a sale. Here are thirteen red horsemen I-cent stamps of 1861, worth \$30 and would bring \$100 at a sale. Here are thirteen red horsemen I-cent stamps of 1861, worth \$30 and would bring \$100 at a sale. Here are therefore are worth \$50 each, but the fourth is one I never heard of. The 1-cent head is upside down. It must be worth \$50. Here are over a dozen of 1867, worth \$300 if we could wait for buyers. See these four curious double stamps, one cent and three cents? Three are worth \$50 each, but the fourth is one I never heard of. The 1-cent head is upside down. It must be worth \$50. Here are over a dozen of the ratible-cent envelopes of 1863. Prof. Jennings paid \$42 for the one he has. These two Goliad and these five of Baton Rouge cannot be bought for \$400. Here

Dick was back Fridav night. He brought \$1,360 in greenbacks and a number of the stamps, which it was not necessary to sell. These were added, with mat that remained in the trunk, to Susie's collection which was not sold, for a "nest egg." The duplicate only were sold, but to advantage, for that purpose. The marriage was not postponed. "Never destros postage-stamp," said Grandfather Perris last week to a young man who had torn an envelope in pieces to get out a letter. "If you take an old man's advice you will start a collection. If my daughter Susic hadn't started one four years ago we might now be on the town."

This was not fair to Dick, but old people are for getful.

This was not fair to Dick, but old people are for getful.

It is a well-known fact that in every house there are hundreds of old letters that have very valuable stamps on the envelopes. A gentleman well-versed in such matters has gotten out a stamp guide containing pages and pages of illustrations which will enable any one to get at the true value of old Coins, Stamps and the like and the Publishers of Comport, Augusta, Maine, have just made arrangements to thendle a large number of the Guides which sell for 20c. each, but being desirous of receiving renewals from thousands of our old subscribers and wanting to do them a favor also, we will give one of these Guides away to all who enclose 2c, for postage when they send the 25c. for renewal or for a new yearly subscriber. When it is known that one man, a shoemaker, obtained Twenty Thousand dollars for his cellection of old stamps and others have received as high as one Thousand dollars for one stamp that many apparently common ones bring \$50 and that old coins are just as valuable; it will show you the importance of having a reliable guide in the house, and thus be able to pay off a mortgage or put money in the bank, from utilizing these apparently worthless things.

LADIES LACE PINS FREE.

We have some new style Gold-plate Bangle Pins coming in very unique patterns, comprising the Souvenir Spcon, Key and various new styles. We want every one to get our new Catalegue and Premium List of 500 new articles in Jewelery and Household goods, so if you address Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine, and enclose 4c. for mailing we will send one of these real gold-plated pins free postpaid.

THE TOBACCO HABIT.

THE TOBACCO HABIT.

Although a great many persons enjoy life and fat up when victims of the tobacco habit, there are millions who would give all the worlds good they have in stock if they could but rid themselves of this cures of hawking, spitting and smoking. M. N. Tamer writes that he was for thirty years a stove to tobacco and it simply ruined his health. John Slinn a prominent business man in Fall River, Mass., said his Heart got into the state that physicians called Tobacco Heart and the continual use of tobacco for many years so upeat his general health also that he could not eat, sleep or work. Yet both of these and thousands of others found immediate relief and a permanent cure by simply taking one tablet of Oxien after each meal. As it will not cost our readers anything to try this wonderful but harmless remedy we advise all to send at once to The Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine, and get free samples which they now send to all troubled in this manner. We have positive proof of the great good it is doing.

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n, how death nvil chorus n, my words, sailor's love. A sailor a love, A sailor a love one, A love song, Annie Laurie, Anid lang syne, Anid e Gray, Bye and bye, Believe me. Betsey Baker. Bryan O'Lynn. Bryan Boru. Bobbin' around. Bonnie Donne Donnee. Billy boy. Bygone hours. Beware. Baby mine. Belie Brandon. Belie Brandon. Belie Brandon. Belie Brandon.

Bony boat.
Bony boat.
Bob up serenely.
Blue eyed Mary.
Brave Wolfe.
Bachelor's fare.
Bessy's mistake.
Canaan.
Caller Herrin'. Bessy's mistake, Canaan, Caller Herrin'. Captain Jinks. Captain Jinks. Captain Megan. Cool black Rose, Crooskeen lawn, Ding dong bell. Ding dong bell. Droman Gray Ding dong bell. Droman Gray Carles and Captain Serving tracers. Farwell, ladies. Fring tracer, or and 444 Other batained in this

First love.
First love.
First love.
Forget me not.
Garibaldi hymn.
Girls and Boye.
Gilcs Scroggins.
Gilderoy.
Green sleeves.
Gaffer Grey.
Cumbo Chaff.
Home so blest
Hull's Victory.
Happy thought.
Harvest home.
Huntress fair.
I wont be a nun.
I in the starlight.
I saw thee weep.
I the gloaming.
Jolly rathere.
Roomes Relations.
I wont be a nun.
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I wish you well.
I is the starlight.
I saw thee weep.
I not gloaming.
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Roomes Including.
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Jim along Josle.
Jim crack corn.
Johnny Sands.
Jack Ratlin.
Juanita.
Juanita.
Kilty Tyrrell.
Kathleen Aroon.
Last Ich.
Last Ich.
My country.
Miss Wrinkle.
My queen.
Millie Bawn.
My Annie, O'.
Mary Morrison
Last Ich. Kathleen Aroon.
Last night.
Lord Lovell.
Lullaby.
Little flowers.
Lou'siana belle.
Lubby Dine,
Lucy Neal.
Lanigan's ball. Law.
Larboard watch.
Little Bo-Peep.
Lorelei.
Love, love, love.
Little Barefoot.
Light and gay.
Market cherus

niature. ry Blane

lly. ory O'Moore. oblu Adair. cel o' bogie. Ruby. Save the boy. Speak to me. Shule Agrah. Sweet Annic.

Over there. Oh, Mr. Coon.

The blue bird.
The parting.
The advice.
The fairy boy.
The Ingleside.
The resolve.
Tulochgorum.
Tis better so.
Tho us of the resolve.
The resolve.
The resolve.
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The witchman.
The did naid.
The bridge.
The watermill.
Unspoken.
We, we, wet. Old J.e. Ole Pee Dee. Old King Crow. Oh, Arabella. Poor old maids Pesky Ike. Paddy Snap. Polly.

is time, as you thought, in learning those accombishments last year. Her investment of \$120 will belied. Fiving traces, Intergoaming, Light and gay. Our sag is there, Iswins boy, When behold, but the boy of the above and 4th other senges including the great popular songs Comrades, Ta-ra-ra-boom-ta-ray and others are contained in this incomparable book, every one will want this collection of over 600 songs, "Susic says that we can get the Wilson's house at "Susic says that we can get the Wilson's house at "Omport, can we offer them free to all sending 15c. for a 6 months' subscription to Comport, Address, Publishers of Comport, Augusta, Maine.



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OME children of | and successful. Prosperity did not spoil me nor did

the COMFORT Circle, let us see if we can't find some queer things to chat about. I will do all the talking and you the lis-tening. If you don't understand me, speak out; that will prove that you want to know all I am say ing and that your

We will keep this Fireside Circle all to ourselves. Let us get agoing then while the fire

UNCLE CHARLIE. Yours devotedly,

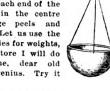


To make a start, where do you suppose I have been today? Well, as you can't guess I will tell you. Flora and Lottie wanted to go to their grandma's and I took them in yesterday morning. I called for them and instead of finding grandma tired, she looked merry and the children happy and quiet. How did



grandma amuse them? Funniest thing you ever heard! First she gave them each an orange. she told them to cut in halves. Now take the insides out carefully and eat them, leaving the peel. Now for some thread, two wooden pen-handles and six pins. All ready? Now we will make a scale, three pieces of thread equal in length tied to

the orange and the ends together. Good. Put a pin on each end of the pen handle and one in the centre and hang the orange peels and threads on the ends. Let us use the orange seeds and pennies for weights, and while you keep store I will do something. Well done, dear old grandma, you are a genius. Try it children, tomorrow.



WICKED FLIES.



OME amusing things come to my ears, children. Here is one from a serious child named Ruby. She was seated by the window watching very closely the flies as they came upon the glass, the window being closed on account of the rain. The child's mother, knowing how thoughtful she was, said nothing. After a

half-hour's silence Ruby turned to her mother and said "I think flies are dangerous things. There is one at the bottom of the pane, he is drunk. He must have come from some beer saloon. He kept tumbling while other flies, as you see, are lively. Some are stupid but they don't act like that one. Why can't flies eat bad meat and other awful things, then come into our house and 'light' on our food, fall into our milk and make it bad and give us stomach aches and diptheria? Guess you better put more screens on the window, mama." Ruby was more than right. Insects can carry disease and create epidemics.

MY KITES.



piece. With the money I made three other kites. These I sold and made nine more. I was busy, happy

three-cent

I stop to count my profits, but when the nine were sold I plunged into the business wholesale and made twenty kites. This lot I made of paper of various colors and in my haste to get dry on the edges where the paste was, I laid them on top of the hen-house where the sun shone hot. While these were drying I went into the woodshed and worked on my bobbins.

I laughed, whistled and felt joyous, and the folks
thought me quite a merchant. All the time the hens
were cackling and making no end of noise, even the roosters I thought, were crowing over my lovely kites. The bobbins made, I was ready for the loops and went out to get my kites. Horrors! Will you believe me children! The hens had flown up and through the laths had picked the pretty colored paper all to pieces leaving only the cords and sticks grim skeletons of my hard work. Ruin stared me in the face. It was my first disappointment. Cry? Of course I cried, but I had not invested all my money in this batch, and before night I had ten kites all built and three were sold before bedtime. That was 37 years ago and yet I can hear those confounded hens and roosters cackling now.

JOHN'S COMPOSITION.

AY father, I've got to speak an original composition and I have made this one. Will you hear it?" "Yes, John, go ahead."



"Well, the subject is 'Two Shoes.' Last night when I took off my shoes both of them grumbled at the way I threw them into a corner. In one voice they exclaimed. 'After w have carried you 'round

all day you ought to let us down easy. We are tired all out. You don't care a rush for us.' I smiled and stood them up side by side near the open window so they might breathe freely while I slept. About midnight I was awakened by hearing two voices in my room and discovered that they came from my shoes. The right said to the left, 'Don't bother me. If you do I'll hit you. I'm stronger than you and bigger. You never will be as important as I, so don't crowd or be ambitious, but go to sleep.' The left shoe replied, 'You're my big brother, aint you? I felt cold and was snugging up to you a little. You ought to be kind, since I, though smaller than you, have to bear the same burden all day, the same weight that you do. I am prettier than you-my toe is not worn out and my heel is square. Come, be good wont you? For a moment the right made no reply; finally it spoke up and said, 'All right, beauty, we'll trudge through life together and take things as they come. You do the pretty and I'll fight the battles and do all the kicking.' I laughed so loud at this dialogue that the shoes gave a quiet squeak and I heard no more from them. In the morning, when I put the shoes on I found the strings all tangled up and I concluded that this was the way they paid me up for laughing at them in the night."

"Will that do, father?"

"Yes, John, the idea is a good one; we should always be kind to the weak ones; the left shoe is as important as the right in this world of struggles."

THE PHILOSOPHER.



HILDREN, did you hear that terrific saap from the burning log? Well, what do you suppose made it make such a bluster? I think was a remnant of cold wind, that several winters ago had been sneaking about and just before the sun went down gave the tree a smart rap as a good-night joke It took the tree by surprise and

overed, the blast was deep into its heart and the noise we heard was the thawing out of the frozen smile of the winter night. Ah! I see some of your eyes blinking like the embers on the hearth and for a last "snap" I will give you a peaceful sort of story.



MILLION years ago there was king and he was very fond of flowers. One summer he had gathered to him all the flowers in the kingdom. This made the toliage so mad that it all turned with jealousy and this is the cause for the color of the leaves and grass today. The king tried every way to restore the green to blue like the sky, its original color, but he

could not accomplish his task. So he called in his minister of science and asked him to explain the reason of the mishap and why the color could not be restored. The minister looked wise, then smiled and said 'Do as I do.' The minister opened his mouth wide, held his hand near it and breathed out slowly upon the palm The king did the same thing. 'How

does it feel' said the minister. The king replied 'Good,' said the minister, 'now pucker your mouth as if you were going to whistle and blow fast onto your palm.' He did so and exclaimed 'It is onto your palm.' cold.' 'Yes,' said the minister, 'from the same hot mouth comes the cold wind; so it is that Nature has its laws and if you breathe heat you will get heat, if you blow cold you will get cold. The foliage received the cold blast of neglect, the flowers the warmth of your heart, consequently the foliage faded and can never again be restored.'

The king wept.



HERE is another story-What! Emma and Tommy gaping? Well, I'll excuse you, for I know it is not polite to take a nap in companyso run along to bed and when

you're snugly hugging the pillow, think of the poor sailors who will not sit around the fire-side on Thanksgiving Day, who will not pass up their plate for roast turkey and plum pudding, nor gratify their tastes with grandma's squash, pumpkin, apple and cranberry pie;

no, they will sit around the mess table, gobble down the canned turkey, eat duff, smoke, tell stories and later on, when frozen winds are blowing and the wave's spray tumbles on board, drenching the sails, ropes and the man at the tiller, they will crowd into their bunks and dream of ivory men with red teeth and kitties that look like camels.



The one that gets the wish-bone is sure to have a splendid present from Santa Claus next month. Good night my Comforts, I'll think up my chat for

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STEREOPTICONS



IT. Min.

DIAMONDS FOR BREAKFAST.

BY J. D. ELLSWORTH.

Commight, 1892, by the Publishers of COMFORT.



CHRISTMAS breakfast was smoking hot upon the table when note came from the chief inspector asking me to report immediately at police

headquarters. My appetite was gone. I left the table without

mouthful of food.

My name, James Burns, stood on the books as the oldest detective on the force and yet, that 25th day of December, 1889, I felt that the sudden summons to headquarters could mean but one thing-discharge.

Like a flash it came to me that Christmas day was the anniversary of the great Bandbury diamond robbery.

What did that mean to me?

Well, I'll have to explain. On Christmas night, the year before, a magnificent reception was held at the residence of old Judge Bandbury. An awning stretched from the front door to the curbstone, the street was blocked with carriages, and on the sidewalk was a crowd of loiterers who watched the entrance whence issued a blaze of light.

Mrs. Bandbury was not a young woman but she was a very handsome one, for it used to be said that the Judge had married her to wear the family jewels, which were almost as famous as the family name.

She wore the name and the jewels grandly that night. Those who saw her told me that she seemed to be surrounded with the illumination of fire-flashing gems.

There was a profusion of rings and bracelets and elaborately jewelled pins in the collection, which Mrs. Bandbury wore in her hair and corsage, and upon her shapely arms and aristocratic fingers. But the pride of them all was a gorgeous necklace, with a large pendant crescent, all set with perfect blue-white stones. These rare gems were what delighted the eyes of connoisseurs and gave to the collection the extraordinary value of one hundred and sixty five thousand dollars.

In the midst of the fete, after the first formalities were over, Mrs. Bandbury rushed weeping into the drawing-room and fell fainting in her

You can imagine what confusion and excitement would follow a scene like that. Ladies screamed and gentlemen crowded around the astonished host. Just as the lady began to open her eyes, the cold, intense tones of the Judge were heard clearly above the general hubbub.

"Gentlemen, she has been robbed. The Bandbury jewels are gone!"

That quieted everybody. The ladies took charge of Mrs. Bandbury while the Judge questioned the footman and other servants. None of them had been near the lady at the time. Then he telephoned to the police headquarters and by the time I could get to his house, Mrs. Bandbury had recovered sufficiently to tell her story.

There was little to tell.

While passing through the hall she had suddenly felt her eyes blindfolded and her arms seized by strong hands. She was paralyzed by fear and although she felt that she was being stripped of her jewels she could only utter a feeble protest that was drowned by the music of the orchestra.

Then she was as suddenly released and wrapped closely in the heavy folds of the portiere that hung by the entrance of the drawingroom. When she managed to free herself from the curtain she had rushed into her husband's arms.

But the diamonds were gone.

It was a daring robbery and made without leaving a single trace of the perpetrator. I again questioned the guests and the house servants and then went out the back entrance and mingled with the crowd of coachmen and loungers upon the sidewalk.

A policeman had been stationed before the house but at the time the deed was done he was reporting to his station from the nearest patrol box.

There was not a clue.

I threw all my energies into the case but was not able to penetrate one step into the mystery. I had spent a great deal of time in trying to find the bold diamond thief, and when I failed in that I tried every known means of discovering the diamonds. The Judge had great influence at headquarters and tried by the promise of large rewards to recover the gems and leave the mystery a mystery still.

All, all in vain.

Fate seemed to have decreed that Beatrice Bandbury, the Judge's only daughter, who was engaged to be married, should lose the family name and the family jewels.

I knew my chief as a patient man but as I hurried through the streets that Christmas morning, I felt certain that his patience had come to an end.

Why shouldn't he complain?

A year had passed and nothing had been accomplished. I had worked faithfully, to be sure, but, I had failed. No explanation of mine would alter that fact.

I felt blue and desperate, as the anxiety of the past year had told upon my nerves, for even a detective has nerves.

The streets were full of the sights and sounds of Christmas day but I turned my head away. They seemed to mock me.

When I reached headquarters the clerk told me that the chief had left word to have me join him in his private office. That seemed to me, in my excited state, dubious, and I almost fancied that I could see the tall form of Judge Bandbury rising in accusation.



SHE SUDDENLY FELT HER EYES BLINDFOLDED.

I mustered up my courage and entered the chief's room. The Judge was not there at all, out instead there was a middle-aged, prosperous-looking gentleman whom the chief introduced as Mr. Lowndes, a well-known real estate dealer. The chief looked at me pleasantly and did not say a word about the Bandbury diamonds.

"We have a delicate case here, Mr. Burns," said the chief, "and I feel that I can trust you to do all that can be done."



To my questions, Mr. Lowndes and the butler replied that it was about five o'clock in the evening when the safe was unlocked. Daylight was just beginning to fade, and Mr. Lowndes in passing through the dining-room, had picked up a lighted lamp and held it in one hand while he unlocked the safe.

After dinner the butler had carefully washed the silver and returned it to its place. Both were positive that the safe had been securely locked. The only fact that gave the slightest clue was that one of the dining-room windows had been found unlocked. I had the two men go through the performance of opening the safe. Mr. Lowndes stooped down and turned the knob, holding in one hand a rolled-up newspaper to represent the lamp. The butler stood a little to one side, as nearly as he could tell where he had stood the night before. I stood at the butler's clow and satisfied myself that by watching the large old-fashioned dial closely he could easily have read the combination as Mr. Lowndes slowly turned it around.

the combination as Mr. Laround.

I looked the man over and made up my mind that unless appearances greatly lied, he knew absolutely nothing about the robbery. He was the very image of the honest, painstaking, reliable servant who stays a lifetime with one family.

Lowndes and the

time with one family.

Mr. Lowndes and the butler watched me curiously as I went to the suspicious dining-room window and examined it critically with my magnifying glass. From various little marks I soon came to the conclusion that it had been opened by passing a thin steel blade between the sashes and throwing aside the catch. This was a small bit of evidence, but it was enough to convince me that the work was done by outsiders.

Then I went back into the safe room. There was only one window in this, an oval-shaped on ne, rather high in the rear wall and overlooking the yard. This window was one piece of handsome plate glass and although pivoted so as to swing open, was fastened by a good strong bolt.

Time was flying and I had accomplished nothing I took another look at the safe. It was old-fashioned but reliable, with a thick door and heavy hinges. There were no signs that it had been tampered with. Suddenly I had what must have been an inspiration.

good strong bolt.

Time was flying and I had accomplished nothing. I took another look at the safe. It was old-fashioned but reliable, with a thick door and heavy hinges. There were no signs that it had been tampered with Suddenly I had what must have been an inspiration. I had a theory. It was a wild one, but there was

one chance in a thousand that it was right. I put my head down to the lock of the safe and looked up to the oval window in the opposite wall.

Through that window I could see a third story window in the side wall of the house across the little back courtyard. It was about 30 feet away. The blinds were tightly closed but I decided that I must find out something about that window.

Slipping out of the Lowndes residence I walked around the corner and up the cross street. I found that I could easily locate the closed window and when I came to the door I was reassured to find the conventional card of "Rooms to let."

While waiting for the door to be opened in answer



UNLOCKING THE SAFE

to my ring I decided what to do. Either that third floor room would explain the mystery or it would not. I looked at my watch and found that it was nearly eleven o'clock. There was no time to mince matters. The landlady herself came to the door and when I said that I wished to ask some questions about her house, she invited me in.

A few minutes conversation satisfied me that she was just what she seemed, a hard-working, honest woman. Her lodgers, she said, were hard-working people like herself, and it was evident that if there were crooks in the house she did not know it.

people like herself, and it was evident that if there were erooks in the house she did not know it.

"I am an agent from the insurance department," I said, "and would like to look through your house." She was somewhat mystified, but she had no thought of objecting. After a cursory look downstairs I told her I would go up on the third floor and followed as she led the way. Most of the rooms were unlocked and looking from their windows I had no difficulty in locating the one with the closed blinds. That room's door was locked.

The landlady knocked and got no answer. She had no key, she said, because she had given the duplicate to the second lodger. It did not matter as I opened the door with one from my own bunch. The room was an ordinary bed-room with the usual furniture. It was in some disorder and the bed had not been made. In one corner I saw a pair of shoes carelessly thrown out of the way

They had rubbers on.

There had been no rain or snow for a week and the rubbers, which were brand-new, bore no marks of mud. At the foot of the bed stood a huge Saratoga trunk, also new.

Under a newspaper on the bureau, I found what I

mud. At the foot of the bed stood a nuge bullength mud. At the foot of the bureau, I found what I under a newspaper on the bureau, I found what I was looking for. A long and very powerful pair of binoculars, or double telescope. Without doubt these had been left set at the proper focus for the distance for which they were last used.

Stepping to the window, I tilted the blind slightly and looked down through the window of Mr. Lowndes house, across the area. I could plainly see the glistening safe knob. He had said that when he had unlocked the safe the night before he had held a bright lamp.

tening safe knob. He had said that when he nad unlocked the safe the night before he had held a bright lamp.

Even without this illumination I could, with a little study, make out the figures, 0, 10, 20, and so on, although I could not distinguish any of the smaller divisions. However, they could be guessed at pretty closely.

The dial then stood, as nearly as I could make out, about half way between 60 and 70—that is, 65. I had not the slightest doubt, that had Mr. Lowndes appeared in the room at that moment and slowly turned the knob, I could have told very nearly, if not exactly, the combination.

I felt that my theory was verified, but meanwhile the men might any minute return to their room. I thought of the trunk. It was locked, as I expected. I seized hold of one end and tried to lift it. It was very heavy. No ordinary clothing would give it that weight.

Did it contain the silver?

Of that I felt confident. The plate was too heavy to be carried far.

Now to trap the men.

I closed and locked the door and as I did so I noticed that the landlady was growing nervous and suspicious.



"I am going to summon assistance," I said, "and during my absence expect you to watch for those men, but don't let them know that I have been in their room as you value your own safety.

She promised faithfully to do as I said and then directed me to a drug store near by, where there was a public telephone.

Calling up the chief inspector at headquarters, I told him that I thought I had located the silver and would like to have two officers in citizen's clothes sent out at once to watch No. 647 and assist me in any way they could.

I was not gone long but when I got back the watchful landlady met me at the door. The men had returned and brought a third man with them. She also said that I could probably hear what they said from the adjoining room which had a connecting door that had been nailed up.

Together we went to this room and with her help leautiously moved the olid-fashioned bureau that stood against the door. Then I listened.

"Well, now for business," said a deep voice, cautiously. "Over at the restaurant you said you couldn't handle the stuff in its present shape?"

"No, it is not worth a cent to me," said another voice. "It is too dangerous. If you wish to sell me a brick or two of silver, I pay you a good price by weight."

weight."
"But it's worth too much to melt down," put in a third voice. "Think of the workmanship. You ought to see some of the pieces."
"All marked, my friend, with the owner's name. It would take months to sell the pieces, even in other cities. To melt it is cheapest and safest."
"Well wont you make us an offer for the stuff as it stands?"

tands?"
"Where is it?" said the cautious, greedy voice.
"I'm settin' on it this blooming minute."
"Well, yes, I will look at it," said the other, hesi-

"Well, yes, I will look at it," said the volte, I staingly.

That was enough for me. I ran down to the front door and heckoned to the two men who had met on the opposite sidewalk and were apparently engaged in idle gossip.

Very briefly I explained that I had two burglars treed, and that there was a fence-keeper with them who might be useful. We knew we had desperate men to deal with and decided not to stand upon ceremony. Men in their fix have shot through a door before now.

We stole quietly up to the third floor and threw our united strength against the room door, forcing it

united strength against the room door, forcing is open. It was a complete surprise. The two burglars would have made a fight, but before they could draw the peapons each was seized by an officer and fitted to seapons each was seized by an officer and fitted to seapons each was seized by an officer and fitted they sat glum and silent.

I stood in the doorway with a drawn revolver, but it was needless. Before the open trunk stood a cowering old man with his hands before his face. But i had recognized him.

He was not a common pawn-broker but the proprietor of a small, but fashionable store for the sale of brica-brac. His place was right under the shadow of police headquarters and was only patronized by the wealthiest and most exclusive ladies.

Mr. Ephraiham was generous to his friends and was something of a politician. I had, up to that and open as the day was his store a "fence" for the plunder of thieves? It must be so.

"We might as well have a look at your place, Mr. Ephraiham?" I said with assumed carelessness. "You see this is rather suspicious."

To my surprise he readily consented saying, "Yes. Mr. Burns, let's get out of this."

I instructed my men to summon the patrol wagos to convey the prisoners and the recovered silver to police headquarters. When Mr. Ephraiham and i stepped out upon the street I called a carriage at his request and we were driven to his store. The place was closed for the holiday."

I was no simple matter to unlock that safe, but when it was unlocked the door swung open easily. With a key from his pocket-book Mr. Ephraiham unlocked an inner steel door that disclosed a set of small drawers. A fortune would be secure in those little drawers, I thought, as I watched closely the quick actions of my companion.

Opening the top drawer he took from it a handsome diamond ring. "Mr. Burns, my friend," he said, "we have known each other for a long time. I felt that there was a strange fascination about that big safe. The bundy finds the same of the matter and it was involuntarily I look as s

stones of least value.

"You are a receiver of stolen goods at any rate," said the chief, and I put the handcuffs on the man as a matter of precaution.

"Mr. Lowndes' silver is recovered and here are the Bandbury jewels. As it is after one o'clock I think I am entitled to my Christmas breakfast," I said to the chief.

"You have worked hard and been much troubled by these diamonds, and I have permission to give you this ring which you recovered to-day, and also this scarf-pin to show that I appreciate what you have done."

"Yes, go to breakfast, Burns," said the chief. "I will lock up the prisoner."

That is how I had diamonds for breakfast.

THE END.

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but it is prettier when worn with the skirt over it, and either the plaid belt or a pretty velvet bodice.

A blouse of the dark green and blue woolen plaid, worn with a dark woolen skirt of any color, makes a stylish and pretty afternoon dress for a young lady, or a nice school dress for girls.

BRIDAL GOWNS.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

\$ 8

LET me ter some sugges-tions to the young woman

s o me suggestion s to the young woman who expects to be married in a month and has been in despair because she can find not hin may be made of a wedding dress within the modest limits of her slender purse. It may be made of as rich materials as desired, but is very charming in simpler goods. The white China silks that can be bought at almost any season for seventy-five cents a yard is especially adapted to this style, which requires cont sixteen yard; at it can be made, with exquisite effect, of white Henrietta or Lansdowne, requiring about six yards

BY SALLIE JOY WHITE.

Copyright, 1892, by the Publishers of COMFORT.

N undertaking this department of so much importance to every woman, young or old, I wish it to be as helpful as possible to every one who reads it. I want to say something that shall be what each one of you needs to hear, whether she be the young girl in her city home, or another girl on the hill farm of New England, or the prairie farm of the West, or of the fruit ranch of California. I want to help the young wife and the older matron, and I hope that even "Grandma," who surely has not gotten away the contract which extends to dainty pretty from the interest which attaches to dainty, pretty things, will find enough to interest her.

We want to make this sewing corner one of the most comfortable and cozy of all Comport's corners, as well as one of the most interesting. You know how it is in the real home; what good times are had when the work-baskets come out and all sit down to when the work-baskets come out and all sit down to a pleasant hour of work, how fingers and tongues fly in friendly rivalry, how much the hands accomplish, while lips discuss questions of domestic economy, consider ways and means, plan pretty fineries for some social affair, or, the subject of clothes being settled, talk over the last new book, or the story in COMPORT which has interested them all.

Well, I want this department of dress to be just as

cozy and just as pleasant as that, and above all, I want it to be genuinely helpful. It must tell of something that is fitting as well as fashionable. It ust point the best way from out many ways, and onsider clothes from an economical and artistic

consider clothes from an economical standpoint.

There is one charm of it all. It is quite possible to attain both economy and artistic result in the same tailette. I often go so far as to say that nothing is inpossible to the girl with good taste, an artistic sense, an idea of fitness, and ten clever fingers. To be sure she needs a little money, but it is surprising how much less this girl needs than so many others

be sure she needs a little money, but it is surprising how much less this girl needs than so many others do.

The first lesson that one needs to learn is that o indicious buying. I know how hard it is often to resist the desire to purchase something that strikes the fancy. It is pretty and you want it. If you have plenty of money at your disposal why you can buy it because you can have other things to alternate with the surface of the season, then you will need to stop and consider.

In the first place is it something that will guilely out of fashion? Will you tire of it easily it is opponented in color or in combination o color that it will assert itself prominently and always betray itself as the one gown you possess? Is becoming to you? Is it suitable for you? That it the catechism which every woman needs to put hereself through when buying a new dress. If she does it carefully she will soon get so accustomed to it, that it will become an involuntary mental process and she can, by and by, decide the moment she looks at a piece of goods whether she should buy it.

I have a case in point that will filustrate precisely what I mean. Not long ago, the pretty girl who received in my kitchen cabinet came to me with a sample of dress goods. It was a piece like the new dress which her special friend had got for winter, and she thought of having one like it, but came first to me for advice.

It was one of the "novelty goods" as they call everything that is out of the line of the standard

which her special friend had got for winter, and she thought of having one like it, but came first to me for advice.

It was one of the "novelty goods" as they call everything that is out of the line of the standard goods, in a shaggy weave, and of a light brown that would easily fade. I examined it carefully and advised against its purchase, giving my reasons.

Nora, like the sensible girl she is, saw what I meant, and then she asked me if I would go with her to select her dress. I gladly acceded to her request and taking her to one of the most reliable shops in Boston, I gave an hour or two to helping her.

She bought an all-wool cashmere of a reliable make in a dark rich navy blue, and I suggested that she should get an extra yard that she might use in repairing it, if necessary, another season. She had made up her mind to have a silk vest, so she got some good surah that matched the color, and a pretty blue passementerie, with a little gold running through it to outline the vest, trim the collar and sleeves. She had it made with a short round skirt, clearing the ground-for she had got to wear it everywhere, and a skirt that drags is very vulgar—except for the house or a carriage—and finished on the bottom with two narrow ruffles of the material. The waist was a sort of basque, sharply pointed both back and front, with a pleated vest of the surah, also collar and cuffs to the full sleeves.

It is a very refined dress, and will look

which her special friend had got for winter, and she thought of having one like it, but came first to me for advice.

The special friend had got for winter, and she thought of having one like it, but came first to me for advice.

The special friend had got for winter, and she thought of having one like it, but came first to me gods, in a shagey weave, and of a light ly and advised against lise purchase, giving my reasons.

Nore, like the sensible giving had the word in the same and taking her to one of the most reliable shops in Boston, I gave an hour or two to beliph her.

Nore, like the sensible giving had the she had at a first had taking her to one of the most reliable shops in Boston, I gave an hour or two to beliph her.

Boston, I gave an hour or two to beliph her.

So and taking her to one of the most reliable shops in Boston, I gave an hour or two to beliph her.

So and taking her to one of the most reliable shops in Boston, I gave an hour or two to beliph her.

Boston, I gave an hour or two to beliph her.

So and the standard the sensible gives the same and taking her to one of the most reliable shops in Boston, I gave an hour or two to beliph her.

It is a very refuse the material. The waist was a sort of basque, sharply pointed both back and from the group of the same and t

LD.

perfectly smooth. The front is now mushed and the most difficult part over. For the back, pin the muslin on the figure, keeping it straight in the centre of the back and leaving about three inches above the neck. Pleat the edge of the silesia (of course this is for half the back) to exactly correspond with the curve in the middle of the back. Pin the muslin smoothly across the back without straining it or putting it out of the straight, outlining the curved side which joins the side piece of the back, and the hollow for the sleeve. When this is cut to shape enough telet the muslin lie flat, the true shape being indicated by indenting the silesia with the nail. mark ou carefully the shoulder sean which must lie smoothly but easily. When all is marked and roughly cut.

marks and pins.
The side bodies
are then done in
the same way.
the material on The side body of the back must have the material on the straight with the waist line, which will make both edges much bias when cut. Do not pull the silesia to coincide with the shape. Be careful to leave sufficient length below the waist line. The edge of the back side body which is to be sewed to the back will be more on the bias than that to be sewed to the front side body. For the front side body, when the silesia is pinned on the figure the edge joining the front must be as nearly as possible on the straight. For a very stout figure it is sometimes well to make three side pieces instead of two. By following these directions closely I am quite sure that you can secure a satisfactorily fitting basque.

Now for a fe w hints on the little trifles that add so much to a woman's charm of appearance. A plain gown can be brightened to a surprising extent by the addition of a "fan cy front."Take a triangular piece of colored silk or crepe and pleat into a high shirred collar of the same, with a jaunty bow of velvet, the color of the gown, at the fastening, which should be on the side. Edge with a do u b le row of fine Irish point lace (Figure is to gather a deep lace flounce on a heart-shaped shirred piece of some delicate tinted silk or China crepe, with a collar of moire ribbon the same shade. (Fig. 4.)

RUTH PARKTON.

according to the



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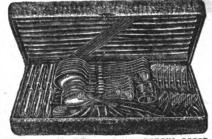
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MY DEAR FRIENDS:
Does it seem a mockery that I should wish you a "Merry Christmas?" No. I think not; for most of you are God's own children, and the birthday of this Son, your Elder Brother, must be to you awondertal day, a time of rejoicing and thanksgiving for all that His coming upon earth has brought us. To some of us has come sorrow and pain, and the Christmas merriment finds but a feeble echo in our hearts; but we may have peace, which the world cannot give, and that is infultely better than fleeting, transitory happiness, which comes and goes at every turn of Fortane's wheel. Are we oppressed by poverty? that must not disturb our peace, for riches alone are powerless to bring contentment. God knows what is best for us, and let us open our hearts to Him, this blessed Christmas-'ide, as a flower opens to the sun, trusting it is love and mercy.

"We know not verily what is laid up for us. There are such beautiful things put by. In God's house and in God's time there are such treasures."

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"We know not verily what is laid up for us. There are such treasures."

"Thou cam'st not to the ple

God had no other thing to do!!"

"Let me say a word to the Shut-Ins. I feel so thankful for my own health and strength, that I can go out and enjoy the beautiful world the dear Saviour has given us, to hear the birds sing and see the beauties of nature all around us; I can hardly realize what an affliction it would be to be deprived of them. But, dear friends, there is a bright side after all. The blessed Master loves you, and when the time alloted as here on earth is over, you will enjoy the freedom of your new life so much the more. Then there will be no such thing as being a Shut-In; no dulled hearing, no blind eyes, no crooked limbs—all is joy and peace and love. May the Saviour be very near and ear to all of you! I felt sorry to read in Dr Anthony's letter that he was not a Christian, and ye what a Christian spirit he shows, what an example of patience! I hope to read in one of his letters some say that he has become a Christian, and an helr of the kingdom that Jesus has gone to prepare for him.

Mrs. M. E. Dwier, Sharon Hill, Pa."

"This column is indeed all it claims, Sunshine and

Mrs. M. E. Dwier, Sharon Hill, Pa."

"This column is indeed all it claims, Sunshine and Sumpathy, for the Shut-Ins. True, some of the letters are very sad, but its like a ray of sunshine to know there are those who read our letters and give us their sympathy; and I find mine is not the hardest lot and grow more patient by reading those same sad letters. I am a Shut-In, in the fullest sense of the word; my life must be passed in my home, and oftentimes for months in one room. But I have a loving family, and many of the comforts of life. I can read, sew, or knit. always lying down, occasionally have a walk acroes the room, and rarely to the garden. Will some of the sisters send me scraps of silk, plush, worsted, etc., for my quilt? I will knit for them in return. And do not be shocked, dear sisters, but if you have some old novels that you have read, I will pay postage on them. They help me in my lonely hours, and I learn many lessons from good novels. We all have our Bibles, and find much consolation therein, but the human mind calls for something else. Believe me, I sympathize with you all, and believe there is a brighter day coming for us.

Mrs. L. A. MARTIN, Desdimonia, Texas."

Thank you for these kind words for our column. Let us all try to bring in more sunshine, so that it.

Thank you for these kind words for our column Let us all try to bring in more sunshine, so that it may shine out of our corner into the world around.

may shine out of our corner into the world around.

"In response to Aunt Minerva's call, I come. You have my heartfelt sympathy and my prayers. I would give more, but a Sister of Charity cannot. From experience I know how hard it is to lie day after day, effen in the same position, on the bed of pain. But withal the lot of the sufferer is the lot most blest, where that sufferer relies on God, and confides in Him like a little child. And where are we treading, save where our Lord Jesus Christ has led before us? Was not His life one chapter of agony? What a blessed privilege, if we could only look on it so, to be allowed to suffer! for is it not a privilege to follow where Christ has led? And it is our strongest proof of God's love, for 'whom He loveth, He chasteneth.' Oh sufferer, be of good cheer; great is your reward in Heaven; for if you put your trust in the Lord Jesus, your Gethsemane will have its strengthening angels.

A SISTER OF CHARITY.'

"I remember once reading of a dear Shut-In sister, who was antirely headidden and therefore makely.

on State of the control of the contr

What a beautiful story, and how full of encouragement for those who are laid aside from active work, and find it hard to realize that "they also serve who only stand and wait."

More things are

"More things are wrought by prayer Than this world dreams of.

For what are men better than sheep or goats
That nourish a blind life within the brain,
If, knowing God, they lift not hands in prayer
Both for themselves and those who call them friend?
For so the whole round earth is every way
Bound by gold chains about the feet of God."

"Since you asked the cousins to write about pleasant things, I will tell of the pleasant picnic that 28 of my friends had for me this summer. We camped in a shady grove near by my home, and had a great amount of harmless fun and real enjoyment. Of course we had dinner too, and a good one it was. Some of you will agree with Owen Meredith in saying:

Some of you will agree with Owen mercuit in saying:

'Oh hour of all hours the most blest upon earth,
Blessed hour of our dinners!!
Dear invalid cousins, don't you think it would be interesting to exchange opinions on our favorite authors and books? Let us make our column so deeply interesting that those who think us such a stupid set, will come to the key-hole and listen to our bright chats. Do not be discouraged. 'He that endureth to the end shall be saved.' Sometimes when I feel like fretting, this thought of Miss Alcott proves helpful to me: 'When you feel discontented, think over your blessings and be grateful.'

OLIVE R. SHARFFER, Ohl, Penn."

With love to all, your AUNT MINERVA.

FACTS FOR THE FAIR SEX.

The original pin was a fish-bone.

A Chicago woman recently died from the bite of her pet pug dog inflicted six months ago.

In France there are fifteen women among the thirty-six factory inspectors. A new invention is that of glass panels in oven doors, enabling cooks to watch the food without opening the door.

London has a firm of women tea merchants who have bought an estate in Ceylon, and employ women as blenders, tasters, packers and agents. Packing is considered the most difficult part of the business, but this is being rapidly mastered.

Princess Marie Bibesco, a young woman 24 years of age, has lately succeeded in swimming the Hellespont—Dardanelles Straits—from the European to the Asiatic Shore, and thus ranges her name alongside of those of the classic Leander and the poetic Byron.

The origin of the leap year privilege to woman probably arose from the fact that in 1228 the Scotch Parliament passed a law permitting any maiden to propose to the man she loved. In case of non-acceptance he could be fined as high as \$500 according to his means, unless he could prove that he was engaged to someone else.

In New York City a man and a woman are engaging in a long distance, go-as-you-please plano-playing contest. The man smokes and the woman chews gum. They are fed by attendants, and to see the fair contestant eat a slice of pie without missing a note is alone worth the price of admission. As they each play different tunes, the combined result is an awful hash.

ODDITIES.

The ulster overcost originated in Ireland.

"Boodle" is derived from Dutch and German words meaning pocket or purse.

The jest about red-headed girls and white horses dates back many centuries.

The first nickle-in-the-slot machines were made by Egyptian priests and turned on an urn of holy water. The drums of Servian regiments are placed on little two-wheeled carts, drawn by big dogs, the drummer following.

A lady living near Batavia, Ohio, has a churn which has been in her possession for 55 years and which has made over \$10,000 worth of butter.

Certain cocoanut trees in India, almost entirely dead and lifeless, have been revived and made to bear abundantly by placing salt at the roots.

The name "pound" as a place for keeping stray animals arose from the English law that the owner had to pay one pound sterling before he could recover his stock.

In olden times suicides were buried at cross-roads with a stake driven through the body. The stake was of willow, which grew rapidly and would therefore more surely mark the spot.

Charles V asked to see his own funeral celebrated in the cathedral. It was done with the most minute detail, and made such a frightful impression upon him that he died two days later.

During the reign of Henry V the English Parliament passed a law requiring all the geese in England to be counted. The sheriff of every county was required to furnish six arrow feathers from each goose.

The old master Murillo was once decorating a monastery when one of the monks asked him to paint a picture for him. Having no canvas, Murillo painted "The Madonna of the Napkin" which is still preserved.

The colored globes seen in drug store windows originated in the retorts and jars of various drugs, remedies and mixtures with which the old apothecaries and alchemists surrounded themselves. The Moors of Arabia and Spain were the first to introduce them.

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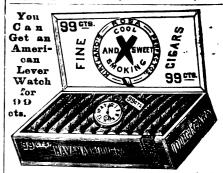
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shall expect every one string a set to tell their friends who see
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Tollet Secrets, how to Secrets for Secrets

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY ALICE TURNER.



FIRST thing that would strike a stranger entering the grounds of the World's Fair in September, 1892, would be the stillness of the place. But there are over seven thousand men at work, hammering, sawing and working as noisily as any other workmen, but so great are the vast spaces that their noise is hardly noticeable.

There is an almost theatrical impression from this collection of buildings so unusual in design and size. The huge white structures rising in every direction seem like palaces suddenly trans-ported from far-off lands. The men at work upon what seems a high wall of marble, appear to move aimlessly about, but suddenly you see two halves of a huge arch coming together by the force of an unseen engine, and a

STATUE OF LIBERTY. unseen engine, and a building begins to take form hundreds of feet above your head.

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ed.

Just now the World's Fair seems like a city in process of construction. You reach the grounds over roads almost impassable for light carriages, be cause of the heavy teams that have cut deep ruts through in every direction. But once inside the grounds, approaching from the south, and you catch glimpses of long stretches of roof, broken by towers, and rising above the shrubberies to the shores.

The Fisheries Pavilion rises symmetrical and unmistakable close to the borders of the lake. It has the appearance of the great pleasure houses of the Arabian Nights, and the least observant of visitors cannot fail to retain some impression of this wonderful building with its delicate pavilions and grotesque decorations.

The picture is one not easily forgotten even when seen at this present state of unfinished work; and when completed with its awnings and draperies of flags—or at night with its wonderful circles of electric lights, it will be a part of a pageant that represents skill, noble design and wonderfully patient work.

work.

From the Art Building one can look for nearly a mile over the waterway, whose beauty is full of serenity and artistic finish. But just across this delightful water parkway, the Illinois State Building, looking like a huge dry goods emporium, thrusts itself into view.

All the principal buildings on the grounds can be reached by water, and the little pleasure boats are already making round trips of the waterways, giving the visitors a look at the progress of this wonderful Exposition.

reached by water, and the little pleasure boats are already making round trips of the waterways, giving the visitors a look at the progress of this wonderful Exposition.

It is from the main court or Plaza that the best comprehensive view of the process of construction can be had. The mighty front of the Main Exhibition Building, the Administration Building with its well-balanced lines rising against the sky in unbroken perspective, fills up one side of the quadrangle. On the northerly side are grouped the Hall of Mines, the Electrical Building and the Transportation Building.

The whole scheme is of noble design and in eminent good taste.

The Womans Building is nearer completion than any of the other buildings. Its white statues tower against the sky, and its broad corridors are open to the public. This building covers nearly four acres; its architect is Miss Sophia Hayden of Boston. The whole building shows clearly ho w precedent may be used with intelligence. Its structure, its decorative points, the dignified simplicity of the scheme make it an appropriate and beautiful building.

The Illin ois State Building, although not outwardly deserving of mention, will be noticeable for the beauty of its decorations which are under the charge of Miss Ida Burgess of

be noticeable for the beauty of its decorations which are under the charge of Miss Ida Burgess of Chieago. Her designs for the reception room and library are unique and beautiful and were selected over a large collection of other designs. She has designed the decorations of several of the finest residences of Chieago. A picturesque part of the present state of the buildings are the workmen. Living in barracks, living almost the lives of soldiers, they represent a side of this great work of construction that is of interest to thousands of working men all over the country. Joiners, masons, truckmen, carpenters, every trade and almost every nationality are gathered here for one common purpose.

Those who visit the shores of Lake Michigan a year from now will see the results of their work in a beautiful city, wonderful beyond all description. At the junction of the North Lagoon with Lake Michigan stands an exact reproduction of a United States coast-line battle-ship, and here the Naval Exhibit will be given. All the uniforms of our sailors, from 1775 to 1848, will be shown.

The grounds are not quite a mile and a half long, but they contain more than five hundred acres. The decoration of the buildings is, as a rule, in good taste; indeed, it is wonderful that such an undertaking should have reached its present stage of completion without more evidence of bad taste.

Doubtless the World's Fair will have its "Columbus in Butter," and perhaps even butter has its place in the art education of the country.

One of the projectors of the Exhibition has said that the Fair Building at present were "Just a sketch for future work." The Agricultural Building and the Building of the Institute of Fine Arts, are imposing and beautiful structures. Indeed, to one unused to such vast undertakings, the creation of these huge buildings seems an impossibility; and, looking forward to next summer when they will be filled with the treasures and wonders of the world, and crowded by vast throngs of pleasure-seekers, we can but admire the w

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HOMING PIGEONS.

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HE name, "homing pigeon," is given to birds that are trained to carry messages. The name is expressive, signifying that the bird seeks its home; this is the trait that renders it valuable.

The name carrier is used to designate all birds that carry messages.

Ancient history says that 43 B.C. Brutus communicated with the consuls by pigeons that flew over the heads of the besiegers. It is well established that the ruler of Syria and Egypt in 1145, had regular postal pigeon service.

From his residence, routes over which the birds flew radiated to the farthest point of his dominions. All along these routes, at convenient distances, towers were built for watchmen, whose business it was to look out for the pigeons and care for them

ons and care for them.

During the years of the triumphs of Napoleon I, certain men of London established pigeon posts in France and adjacent countries; by means of these they obtained news of the results of his campaigns earlier than any one else, and were able to speculate intelligently.

They were used when Paris was besieged in 1870. and in the later days of the siege trained hawks were introduced by the Germans and were used to kill

Experience with the homing pigeon shows that the flight of this bird is not certain unless it has been trained, and unless atmospheric conditions are favorable to its flight.

orable to its flight.

It is common, in training pigeons, to make them fly from one station to another fifty or more miles apart. To explain how it is that these birds find their way home when released, is a difficult matter. It cannot be instinct alone, for if it be night, or if there be a fog, the bird can do nothing.

Experienced fanciers say that the birds depend solely upon observation and intelligence.

It is necessary to state that pigeons will fly only towards their homes. The idea that they will fly in any direction at command is absurd and without foundation.

In Belgium the flying of pigeons is a great national

foundation.

In Belgium the flying of pigeons is a great national sport, they are first flown at the age of five or six months a distance of five miles. This distance is regularly increased to one hundred and eighty miles, which is thought to be all they can do well the first year. The second season birds have been known to cover 500 miles.

Atmosphasic conditions have accounted.

over 500 miles.

Atmospheric conditions have a strong influence over heir flight. Birds of the best breed will fly four undred miles in ten hours in favorable weather, but a bad weather the same birds will take two or three ays to make the same distance, and often cannot fly tall



colony of pigeons of St. Mark's Square. None of these birds have been trained, yet if they were taken away from Venice and set free they would doubtless find their way home.

These birds are fed daily, a pious lady having left a bequest for their maintenance. Small bags of "feed" are sold on the square, and as soon as these birds see a stranger with a bag in his hand, they instantly swoop down upon him for the proffered repast.

An American fancier in speaking of his method of training young birds, says: "I take twenty-five young birds, three weeks old, take them a mile from home and set them free. They will return home without fail. Then I double the distance until fifty miles are reached, then the distance is increased to 100, and then to 200 miles." A long rest is given the birds between long jumps.

The experiment of flying birds from Rome, Italy, to Belgium, was tried in 1888. The distance is nine hundred miles. Five hundred miles of this country was unknown to the birds.

Of the two hundred sent out only twenty returned. As the Alps stood in the line of flight, and as the birds must have flown around the mountains, it is a wonder that any of them returned.

In Belgium they are trained for annual races, and in Russia the Minister of War has ordered the expenditure of \$10,000 for pigeon training. In Germany and France, also, they are trained for military purposes.

In the United States numerous experiments have been made. In 1878 the Signal office sent some to the

purposes.

In the United States numerous experiments have been made. In 1878 the Signal office sent some to the great Indian fighter General Miles, who was then stationed in Dakota. He tried to train and use the birds, but without success. It was thought that a species of hawk, common to that region, persistently hunted them down.

Ladies with an Imperfect Skin should send 25 cents to Dr. H. A. Miner, Malden, Mass.

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"I have received the Japanese goods you advertise, and am astonished at the wonderful bargain. Enclosed find to test, for six lots." VIOLA H. RAY, Somerville, Mass. We make the above great offer to introduce our goods as want agents everywhere. Address all orders to

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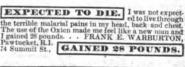
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1 scarcely hoped to recover, I was so feeble and miserable, but Oxien made a new man of me. It also enabled me to abandon the tobacco habit without B.HULL, McCool, Miss. A NEW MAN.

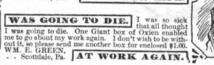
POCTORS FAILED. God bless Oxien, for it is the most remarkable medicine ever prepared. Its results were wonderful with my wife, who suffered two years with dreadful cough and nervous trouble for which the doctors could do nothine. ors could do nothing.
B. H. GREEN,
Lehmann, La. "GOD BLESS OXIEN."







WAS GOING TO DIE. I was







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YEARS OF AGONY. For over twenty years the nerves of my whole system had suffered from debility caused herves of a serious wound I received during the war. Two months ago I tried Oxien, and an setomished at its nervestiffening powers. I highly recommend it to all suffering from nervous weakness. Bradenville, Pa. Company B, 3d Battery, Infantry. ASTONISHING RESULTS.

AFFLICTED 20 YEARS. May God bless you always for Oxien. I never expected to find anything half so wonderful. I have no language to tell how happy and thankful I feel. After being afflicted for 20 years two boxes of Oxien made me young again.

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SUFFERED 10 YEARS. My husband has suffered for ten years with indigestion and nervousness. Less than one Giant box of Oxien did him more good than anything he has taken in those ten years. It is indeed a wonderful medicine. . . Mrs. E. F. ALLGOOD.

Petersburg, INDEED WONDERFUL.



pyears of AGONY. After being under the doctor's care nearly nine years and receiving little benefit I tried Oxien. It has done wonders for me. One and a half boxes brought me good health and others here are receiving the same benefits from it. I enclose \$18.00 for another lot of this Wonderful Food and Plasters.

Wes Win. RANTZ.

h. It mas is brought me good branch of the same benefits from it. I encious up the same benefits from it. I encious with the rot of this Wonderful Food and Plasters. Wm. BANTZ. BOWE, Neb. DOCTORS FAILED.



From Poverty to Riches.

One agent says: "In half an hour I have sold ten dollars worth (or at the rate of thirty thousand dollars a year profit) and still they are coming for it. The Oxien Electric Porous Plasters are doing wonders here."

Not a day passes but what scores of letters like the foregoing reach us from grateful men and women whose lives have been saved by our Wonderful Food for the Nerves, Oxien.

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NEW LIFE, NEW HOPE, NEW POWER, NEW VIGOR,

NEW STRENGTH, NEW HAPPINESS.

NEW HAPPINESS.

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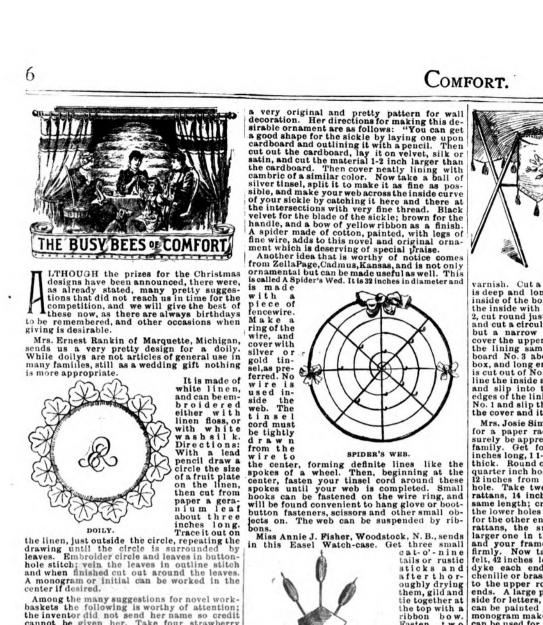
the two hundred and fifty Copyrighted, 1892. thousand dollars we are giving away as premiums, lifting many from poverty to riche THE GIANT OXIE CO., 226 Willow St., Augusta, Maine.













center if desired.

Among the many suggestions for novel workbaskets the following is worthy of attention; the inventor did not send her name so credit cannot be given her. Take four strawberry baskets, line each one neatly with cambric or silk, as preferred, cover the outside of each basket with velvet or silk of contrasting color, or gild or bronze it instead. Then tack the four baskets together meeting in center; on top place a large and pretty bow of ribbon. To each basket add an inside pocket, for scissors and penknife, spools and emery, needles and thimbles, and a chamois eyeglass cleaner, made as follows: Cut two pieces of chamois skin the size of a silver dollar, bind each with narrow white ribbon, then catch together. It will be handy for grandma's spectacles when she uses the basket.

Every woman knows the convenience of hav-

handy for grandma's spectacles when she uses the basket.

Every woman knows the convenience of having scissors, needles and emery ball at hand, and will appreciate the working chatelaine suggested by Mrs. H. Church, Geneva, N. Y.

The one given is made with yellow ribbons. Take satin ribbon about one inch in width, cut in four lengths. The first length should be about 10 inches, the second 12 inches, the third 14 inches and the fourth 15 inches. Fasten the four lengths together at the top with bows of the ribbon, and, if desired, the chatelaine can be fastened about the waist with a ribbon, or pinned on at the waist. At the end of the shorter length fasten an emery ball, to the next length a little heart shaped pincushion, to the next a little needle-book, the scissors attach to the longest piece of ribbon. These can be changed if one prefers and the scissors fastened to the length most convenient.

In the larger cities the store are filled

In the larger cities In the larger cities the stores are filled with novelties for the holidays, and perhaps the Bess would like to hear what the Boston stores, for instance, have to please and interest the industrious, and that could be made at home. Cover for a small table, t

trious, and that CHATELAINE.
could be made at home. First, there is a dainty
cover for a small table, this can be easily made;
it is about three feet square and is made of gobline cloth, a heavily ribbed cotton, but coarse
linen will make an equally pretty one. The
edges are turned up about an inch and featherstitched down with a heavy buttonhole coil of
pule blue; over the surface are stamped, as
nearly together as one may fancy, clover leaves,
these also we red in blue floss. Any other
color can be used, but the blue is very dainty
and effective.

At the same county



There are all sorts of work-baskets, of dolls, of cases for gloves, handkerchiefs, cigars and neckties to be seen; but we leave the store windows for a future talk and return to some of the clever ideas sent in by members of the Hive.







cord must be tightly drawn from the wire to the center, forming definite lines like the spokes of a wheel. Then, beginning at the center, fasten your tinsel cord around these spokes until your web is completed. Small hooks can be fastened on the wire ring, and will be found convenient to hang glove or bootbutton fasteners, scissors and other small objects on. The web can be suspended by ribbons.

Miss Annie J. Fisher, Woodstock, N. B., sends in this Easel Watch-case. Get three small sticks and after the roughly drying them, gild and tie together at the top with a ribbon bow.

Fasten two sticks on for cross bars, at a suitable distance apart, with s mall brass tacks. Make a shield of cardboard 7 1-2 by 4 1-2 in ches and cover with plush or silk. This can be ornamented with forgetmer - not s, hand-painted fasten a small brass hook on which to hang the watch. The shield can be fastened to the easel underneath the ribbon bow.

Among the many ideas for handkerchief cases the following one to be made of paper is pretty and is easily made. Mrs. E. E. Blood of Haysville, Kansas, sends directions as follows: Take two pieces of cream colored blotting paper 8 by 10 inches, pink the edges and line each piece with sheet wadding. Take two Chinese napkins with colored borders, gather three sides slightly with invisible stitches on to the wadding, Put the two halves together and punch holes at the back edges and tie with bows of ribbon, and put ribbon ties at the front edge. The wadding is caught to the blotting paper with invisible stitches, if these stitches show run a vine of embroidery over them. The Chinese napkins caught to the wadding make clever little pockets for the handkerchiefs. The blotting paper can be ornamented by a graceful ribbon bow, or by a hand-painted spray of flowers.

Mrs. Blood also sends a suggestion for a spectacle case or

hand-painted spr
Mrs. Blood
also sends a suggestion for a
spectacle case or
bag for a handkerchief. Take
a piece of black
satin about eight
inches long and satin about eight inches long and three broad, line it with white or lavender silk. Draw up with black or lavender ribbons. This can be fastened at the waist and will prove a great

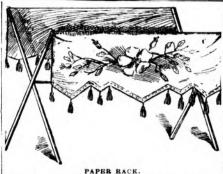


waist and will
prove a great PAPER HANDKERCHIEF CASE.
convenience for grandma, who can then always have her spectacles at hand. This little
bag could also be used for the smelling bottle
and handkerchief, or for any little article that
one likes to have at hand.



covered with white silk mull over crimson silk, with a full soft ruffle of the mull as a finish. The pillow is filled with rushed poppy seeds. If one does not care to use as expensive material as mull or silk, a thin scrim over satine will prove almost as pretty. Embroidered on the mull in crimson floss was the following: "Sleep, balmy sleep." of course one could use some other words expressive of rest as, "Pleasant dreams are made of." The little white everlasting that grows wild in almost every part of the United States could be used to fill a slumber pillow, if poppy seeds cannot be readily obtained.

There are all sorts of work-baskets, of dolls, of cases for gloves, handkerchiefs, cigars and mockties to be seen; but we leave the store windows for a future talk and return to some of the clever ideas sent in by members of the Miss Edith Stevens of Chetopa, Kansas, sends



paper rack.

varnish. Cut a pasteboard as wide as the box is deep and long enough to go around on the inside of the box, cover the outside and half of the inside with the lining. Cut pasteboard No. 2, cut round just large enough to fit into that and cut a circular hole in the middle leaving but a narrow strip an inch on the inside; cover the upper side of pasteboard No. 2, cut the lining same as in pasteboard, cut pasteboard No. 3 about two-thirds as high as the box, and long enough to fit into the circle that is cut out of No. 2, join the ends together and line the inside and half, or over, of the outside and slip into the circle of No. 2, and fasten edges of the lining of No. 1 and No. 3, slip into No. 1 and slip the whole into the knit box, line the cover and it will be completed. M. M. G. Mrs. Josie Simon, Swan, Ind., sends directions

No. 1 and slip the whole into the knit box, line the cover and it will be completed. M. M. G. Mrs. Josie Simon, Swan, Ind., sends directions for a paper rack. A useful article that will surely be appreciated by every member of the family. Get four strips of walnut, each 28 inches long, 11-2 inches wide and 1-4 of an inch thick. Round off one end of each, and bore a quarter inch hole 1-2 inch from the end. Then 12 inches from the same end bore a 1-2 inch hole. Take two small round sticks, or small rattans, 14 inches long, and one thicker one same length; cross two of the walnut pieces at the lower holes for one end, and the other two for the other end, connecting with the stick or rattans, the smaller ones above, and the larger one in the holes 12 inches from ends, and your frame is completed and will stand firmly. Now take a piece of plush, velvet or elt, 42 inches long and 14 inches wide. Vandyke each end and finish these ends with chenille or brass ornaments. Fasten the plush to the upper rounds of the frame and to the ends. A large pocket can be placed under each side for letters, lead pencils, etc. The outside can be painted or embroidered. A handsome monogram makes an artistic finish. This rack can be used for music if desired.

Next month I shall have something to tell the Bees about house-furnishing. And now

monogram makes an action.

can be used for music if desired.

Next month I shall have something to tell the Bees about house-furnishing. And now let me suggest that one of the most acceptable of gifts is a year's subscription to Comport, which costs but twenty-five cents. You have all noticed the great improvement in its different deparments, and the New Year will bring many more original and attractive features for young and old. This is the time to make some friend happy by sending them Comport for a year.

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Busy Bee.

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MORSE & Co., MORSE & Co.,
Sirs:—Dolls received. Enclosed find money order,
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as I already have orders for a number of them.
Mothers and children seem equally delighted with
the dolls. Resp'y, MRS. W. H. Fours.

Now that Holidays are coming, every child will want a present, so order to day and be the first in the field.

BY ELIZABETH SARGENT CURTIS

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MERRY CHRISTMAS to you all! It is a pleasant time to make one's advent into a happy family circle, as I am sure Com-FORT'S is. The whole wide world is full of peace and good will, and the very spirit of the day makes a cordial greeting certain.

So I am glad that it has fallen out that I take Com-FORT'S housekeeper's chair at this festival season, and I hope we shall like each other so well that our relation of "friends in council" may continue for a

It is the intention of the Editor that this department shall be a really helpful one, and he has hon-ored me with an invitation to help him make it so. He believes that one practical housekeeper can help another, and that it is wiser to maintain a sort of advisory council, rather than to attempt to run a cooking school, and on this point I am fully in accord

The intent is to make this department as helpful as possible to every housekeeper. All the new ideas in cooking will be given, and every effort will be made to keep it up to a high practical standard.

cooking will be given, and every effort will be made to keep it up to a high practical standard.

Receipts and directions will be given in plain, straightforward English, and French terms will not be used if their English equivalent can be found. If the French word must be used, it will be explained, so that every one can understand it. There is a great deal of useless mystery made over certain dishes, that are considered high delicacies. The very idea of them frightens the housekeeper, accustomed to the plain, every-day fare of the average family table. If she really understood their composition, she would laugh at her own fears, and face the task of attempting them with a light heart.

In connection with these dishes with the appalling names, I always think of a story I once heard. A lady gave a children's party, and among the dishes she entertained them with at supper were beef croquettes.

"Yes'm," was the reply. "Hash."

And so with many another dish with a fine sounding name. It is only some family dainty masquerading under a foreign name. What we will try to do will be to get really at the thing itself, then those of you who like to do so, may eall it by its foreign name, feeling assured that you have, perhaps, enjoyed at Delmonico's, or Sherry's, or Young's, or Parker's, or if you have not partaken of it yourself, you know those who have, and you can duplicate it for them. Ten to one, if you live in the country, and have real cream, fresh butter, smelling of clover and new-mown hay, and newly laid eggs, you can improve on Delmonico and the rest.

It is possible that the older women, who have vears of experience behind them, may find in this

smelling of clover and new-mown hay, and newly laid eggs, you can improve on Delmonico and the rest.

It is possible that the older women, who have years of experience behind them, may find in this department many things that they already know. But they must not grow impatient over that, but must recoilect that there are hundreds of young women, every day, taking their places as house-keepers, to whom all the ways of domestic life are as a sealed book.

The young men who are on small salaries, and who expect their wives to help them, are taking these wives from the large ranks of working women. They have been sales girls, sewing girls, stenographers, typewriters, teachers, all winning their own way, but doing so outside the home.

They bring to their new duties, loving, loyal hearts, clear brains and shrewd understanding, made clear and shrewd by contact with the world. They have eleverness, readiness and sense, and above all they have a strong desire to keep up their own end in this new partnership, where they stand on equal footing with the other partner.

And, by the way, by and by I shall have a special world to say about this same partnership, and the word will be for both parties, but at present there is no time, so it will have to wait.

These women, the young housekeepers, who come to their new kingdom without experience in that particular line, need only direction. They have the energy and the ability, and they need only to be told how to direct the one and utilize the other, to become very successful.

It is to this class that much of the information must be specially directed, and all the experienced house-keepers will, I am sure, feel like helping all they can in this work of making their "girls" competent rulers of the homes which their "boys" set them over as rulers.

These girls are to be something more than house-keepers, they are to be the home makers. Can any sweeter, more sacred task be set for a woman to do? I did not mean to make my introduction to you so elaborate, but there is always so m

son for the festival dinner. The receipt I am to give you is the one by which this pudding was made, and is the one given by Mrs. Breton, who is the English woman's household law and gospel.

You will require three-quarters of a pound of suet, one pound of sugar, one pound of grated stale bread crumbs, one pound of raisins, one pound of currants, half a pint of milk, a gill of brandy, a nutmeg, half a teaspoonful of cinnamon, half a teaspoonful of mace, the rind and juice of a lemon, a teaspoonful of salt and nine eggs.

haif a pint of milk, a gill of brandy, a nutmeg, half a teaspoonful of cinnamon, half a teaspoonful of salt and nine eggs.

You must chop your suet, stone your rnisins and wash your currants. All this to be done first. Then mix the ingredients, except the eggs, which should be beaten until light and added last of all.

The old-fashloned way of cooking it was to boil it in a cloth, and many do that still; but it requires great care to tie it so that the water will not get in and spoil it, and the safest way is to boil it in moulds. If you do not happen to have the melon moulds, you may use your brown bread boiler, or if you have not this, a clean lard or cottolene pail will do. The amount that this rule will make will be enough for two two quart moulds or pails, or four one quart ones. The mould must be well buttered, and filled only two-thirds or three-quarters full, so that the mixture may have room to swell and become light. Cover tightly, so that no water can get in, and bind a strong piece of cloth around the edge of the cover where it meets the pail. Put into boiling water and steam five hours. Do not let the water stop boiling, and keep your teakettle full of boiling water to replenish that in the kettle if ti boils away. Leave the puddings covered until you serve them. They may be made several days before using, and they will keep all winter in a cool place, if you do not eat them all on Christmas day. If you do make it several days in advance, it should be steamed at least an hour and a half on the day of serving.

When you are ready to serve the puddings, turn them out into a flat dish and pour half a gill of brandy over them, and stick a twig of holly or some other green in each pudding, as the dishes are on the way to table, just before they are brought in side the door, set fire to the brandy, so that they may be brought in blazing. Serve with a creamy sauce, which you will make in the following way.

Cream, half a cup of butter and a cup of sugar, and add two tablespoonful of one of the word. I giv

sink they must not grow impatient over that, but must recoiled that there are hundred of young women, every day taking their places as hosepers, to wom all the ways of domestic lite are as the particle of the point of the poin

add the dry flour and stir until it is perfectly smooth. To stone raisins, pour boiling water over them, let them stand for a few minutes, then take each raisin between the thumb and finger and push the seed to the surface, break the skin and remove the seed.

To chop suet, free it from the strings, sprinkle flour over it; and it will chop very easily and separate without trouble.

Currants may now be bought all cleaned and ready for use. The housekeeper of to-day has something to be thankful for in being spared one of the most tiresome tasks in cooking. It did require special grace to enable one to keep one's patience while cleaning the formerly dirty mixture called dried currants. Don't buy any other than the prepared currants. If your grocer hasn't them—but he probably has—insist upon his sending for them.

How time flies and space fills up. I meant to have told you of some nice made-over dishes, and I did want to take you to the famous Diet Kitchen of Boston and show you how the invalids and the poor are taken care of, but that must wait until next time, when we will make the visit which I am sure will be both pleasant and helpful.

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Merry, happy Holidays to all !

This paper has the largest guaranteed circulation in America.

The best, cheapest and most appropriate holiday gift for old and young—a year's subscription to Comfort—costs but twenty-five cents.

The mothers, sisters and sweethearts in the twelve hundred thousand homes, which Com-FORT now visits every month, are to be congratulated upon the two new departments we inaugurate with this issue for their special benefit. Under the head of "Comport's Kitchen Chats" and "What Women Wear," two of the ablest and most practical women in America will furnish contributions which will be replete with highly instructive and entertaining facts for the fair sex.

The death of Mrs. Harrison has awakened unusual sympathy and sorrow. No woman to whom the attention of the country has been drawn has won greater esteem and love from all classes and all sections. The White House was not merely the official residence of the President of the United States; it was the typical American home. In all the official pomp and social display that necessarily belongs to the life of the President, Mrs. Harrison has shone brilliantly as the first lady of the land, while, in private life, her christian character, her amiability, her accomplishments and unostentatious charity have won the hearts of all who knew her, and the admiration and respect of the whole people.

Mrs. Harrison was not only a true and faithful wife and mother, devoted to her husband and home, but a highly intelligent and accomplished woman. She was an artist of merit, and much of the White House china was decorated by her own hand. Comfort readers have been brought near to her by the receipt from the White House kitchen which she contributed to the columns of this paper.

She was deeply interested in all that was lovely and beautiful in nature, and was passionately fond of flowers, the chrysanthemum being her favorite. She passed away in Octo-ber, the month of Chrysanthemums, and her final resting place was covered with these beautiful flowers.

The tributes of love that have been laid upon her grave are not sweeter or tenderer than the memories of her pure and beautiful life which the American people will forever cherish.

The overwhelming defeat of the Republican party in the late election was the greatest revolution for many years, surprising alike to the politicians and the people. The Democracy have gained control of the government by a decisive majority in the electoral college, the Senate and House of Representatives.

Such a complete overturn in the political affairs of the country has seldom occurred, and the causes are not far to seek. There has been great discontent among the masses of the people, arising from the economic and industrial policy of the government which, to their minds. did not operate for the benefit of the people so much as for the advantage of a few. They may be mistaken, but it is their conviction, and they have voted to overturn the policy of protection which has controlled the administration of government for more than thirty years. This dissatisfaction has been most strongly and prominently shown in the organization of the People's Party, especially in the great Western States, where Gen. Weaver, their candidate for President, received many electoral votes which heretofore have been given to the Republican party. Neither of the old parties was acceptable to this new organization, but its great strength in former Republican States, together with the remarkable increase in the Democratic vote, has overthrown the Republican administration and resulted in the election

of Mr. Cleveland. The great uprising throughout the country

opens the question whether there may not spring up from the old parties a new political organization that shall comprise the best elements of all. and that shall restore to its original purpose a government "of the people, by the people, and for the people."

As Comfort readers will recollect, we stated in a recent issue, that whatever the result of the election might be, the people could be relied upon, in their intelligence and patriotism, to conduct the government for the best good of all. Let us hope that the victors will be found equal to their opportunity.

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS.

Copyright, 1892, by the Publishers of COMFROT. "So dance and sing, and make good cheer, For Christmas comes but once a year,"



It was a holiday for everyone except the cook who

"Were busy by day and by night,
In roasting and boiling for taste and delight."
The subject of their Christmas dinners is trying one; an old Christmas ballad gives speaking description of the feast as follows:
"Although the cold weather doth hunger provoke,
"Tis a comfort to see how the chimneys do smoke;
Provision is making for beer, ale and wine,
For all that are willing and ready to dine.
Then haste to the kitchen where Christmas is chief,
Plum pudding, goose, capon, minced-pies and roa beef."

The traditions of old, customs present an in

Then haste to the kitchen where Christmas is chief. Plum pudding, goose, capon, minced-pies and roast beef."

The traditions of old customs present an interesting picture of olden time manners. A time when it would seem that there were more innocent fooleries then at the present day, and when all ranks of people took their enjoyments more simply and heartily.

In the twelfth century there were spectacles and pageants at Christmas time, when even learned men forgot to be grave and "played the fool" for the amusement of their friends.

The burning of the Yule log is an ancient Christmas ceremony, transmitted to us from the Scandinavians.

The bringing in and placing the ponderous log on the hearth, destined to crackle a welcome to all comers, was a joyous ceremony. Each one is expected to salute the Yule log, for it is full of good promise and its flame burns out old wrongs and heart burnings.

In Germany Christmas Eve is for children the most joyous night in the year, as they feast their eyes on the Christmas tree.

The tree is arranged in the principal room of the house, and when evening comes the children are assembled in an adjoining apartment. At a given signal the door is thrown open and there stands the Christmas tree. Every branch glittering with little lighted tapers, while all sorts of gifts and ornaments are suspended from the branches, or deposited on tables.

In America the Christmas tree branches forth in all its splendor, and before going to sleep the children hang up their stockings at the foot of the bed, to be filled by Kris Kringle or Santa Claus, who is supposed to descend the chimney with gifts for all good children.

If, however, anyone has been naughty, he finds a birch-rod instead of sweet-meats in the stocking.

One favorite Christmas Eve is "Snap dragon." A

or Santa Claus, who is supposed to descend the chimney with gifts for all good children.

If, however, anyone has been naughty, he finds a birch-rod instead of sweet-meats in the stocking.

One favorite Christmas sport very generally played on Christmas Eve is "Snap dragon." A quantity of raisins, preserved cherries and candied figs are deposited in a broad and shallow bowl, and brandy is poured over the fruit and set on fire.

The bystanders now endeavor, by turns, to grasp a raisin, fig or cherry, by plunging their hands through the flames; and as this requires both courage and rapidity of action, a considerable amount of merriment is evoked.

The holly and mistletoe find their place an important one in Christmas decorations.

The introduction of the mistletoe bough in the Christmas festival brings in the superstition that the maid kissed under the mistletoe will be married within a year.

It is generally suspended with much secrecy, either from the centre of a room or over a door, and the ceremony is not duly performed unless a berry is plucked off with each kiss, the berry to be presented to the maiden for good luck.

Another pleasant custom of the holiday is the "Wassail bowl." The bowl should be filled with a rich wine, highly spiced and sweetened, with small roasted apples floating on the surface.

Sometimes cider, mingled with ginger, nut-

with a rich wine, highly spiced and sweetened, with small roasted apples floating on the surface.

Sometimes cider, mingled with ginger, nutmeg, sugar and nuts, is substituted for the wine, but the roasted apples must never be forgotten.

The decoration of a Christmas tree may be as elaborate as one's taste approves or means admit. Many wealthy people make this decoration a work of art, lighting the tree with many electric lights, and with a fountain, and many other charming and original designs. While this display doubtless gives pleasure to many, it is doubtful if it gives any more enjoyment than does the "old fashioned" Christmas tree, with its garlands of pop corn, its paper roses and gay little boxes filled with candies; and the oranges hanging in white net bags.

Then, too, the gingerbread elephants, and the cotton flannel lambs, that are seen gaily perched on the end of many of the branches! Surely no electrical display can equal these charms to the eyes of most children.

The January Number of COMFORT will contain many new and original features, which will be improved and enlarged upon from month to month all through the year of '93. If you subscribe, renew or extend your subscription this month, you will secure all of the good things for only two cents per month. Certainly all can afford to take COMFORT to the tance of that amount. Send 25 cents now.

CHRISTMAS CANDIES.

Copyright, 1892, by the Publishers of COMPORT.



fections be...

Then, too, the making of candy is not without its charms, particularly if the day chosen for the work be a dull, stormy one, and the kitchen be moderately pleas-

larly if the day chose for the work be a dull, stormy one, and the kitchen be moderately pleasant.

The best peppermints can be easily made. Two large cups of coffee-crushed sugar, a half cup of boiling water; boil hard seven minutes without stirring, then take off the fire and stir in a half teaspoonful of oll of peppermint. Beat to a cream with a silver spoon, and drop on to paper. Nothing could be easier or more successful.

Then there is the old-fashioned molasses candy that no one need be told how to make; and chocolate creams that are almost as simply made, for the choclates take one cup of powdered sugar, a quarter of a cup of cold water; beat water and sugar together about a minute, then put on the stove. Be sure not to stir it when on the stove; let it boil five minutes, take it off and let the saucepan stand in cold water, and stir until it becomes creamy; make it into little balls and dip them into melted chocolate, dissolved by setting a dish of grated chocolate in hot water.

Another candy that is easy to make it sugared or creamed walnuts. Crack the nuts as carefully as possible, then to two cups of sugar add one-half cup of water; let it boil about three minutes, then add one-half teaspoonful of cream tartar dissolved in a little cold water, and a small piece of butter, let it cook about two minutes. Have your nuts spread in a buttered tin and turn the candy over them, let it set in a cool place and cut in small squares.

These candies can be relied upon, and are surely less harmful than most of the package candies that are sold in quantities at this season.

Corn-balls, too, are a part of the Christmas merry-making, and be-

are sold in quantities at this season.

Corn-balls, too, are a part of the Christmas merry-making, and besides the fun of making them they are much better than any that can be purchased. After a sufficient quantity of corn is popped, take two cups of sugar, add one-half cup of water and let it come to a boil, then turn it over the popped corn and roll up the balls into shape.

Corn-balls, too, are in demand for decorating the Cristmas-iree, and the making of them will furnish amusement or some dull afternoon or evening, when the fire in the grate or in the range is just right for corn-popping.

WORLD'S FAIR ITEMS.

The State of Pennsylvania alone will send 150,000 mounted butterflies to the insect exhibit at the World's Fair.

The grounds of the World's Fair are a mile and a half in length, and cover 633 acres. In the erection of the Exposition Buildings it is estimated that over 75,000,000 feet of lumber are required.

75,000,000 feet or lumber are required.

They are now building in Spain exact duplicates of the three vessels commanded by Columbus at the time he discovered America. These vessels will come to America next spring. The voyage will be made exactly as Columbus made it, with the same number of men and the same costumes.

number of men and the same costumes.

Thirty-six hundred children, dressed in red, white and blue, formed two immense American flags, stars, stripes and all, and were seated upon two inclined stands on the route of the Chicago parade. When the Vice-president of the U. S. appeared the two American flags stood up and sang "Columbia" and the "Star Spangled Banner."

During the Chicago Fair Leagueration and the Chicago Park Leagueration and the "Star Spangled Banner."

the "Star Spangled Banner."
During the Chicago Fair Inauguration ceremonies the postmaster of the city was astonished to receive a visit from a man inety years of age, clad in buckskin, who walked into his office and dropped a leather knapsack and pouch at his feet. Sixty-seven years ago this old gentleman, Alexander Clermont, used to carry the mails once a month on foot 232 miles of unbroken forest from Chicago to a town in Wisconsin. Being still strong and hearty, this veteran conceived the idea of walking over the old route, in his original costume, which was handsomely beaded and decorated by the Indians who in 1830 were numerous. The old veteran met with a hearty reception at the post-office.

FACTS FOR FARMERS.

The Lawrence Scientific School of Harvard University considers the matter of good roads of such importance that a professor has been engaged to teach exclusively the art of proper road construction.

tion.

If half the study and energy with which the railroads of the country have been pushed forward
should be applied to the highways, their present
condition would be speedily revolutionized in a few
years. And it is a change which would benefit all.

years. And it is a change which would benefit all.

Electrical engineers are making a novel experiment in Illinois. They have located a waterwheel and a dynamo on the banks of a stream and have run the electric wires along the highways, covering in this manner quite a district. This feed wire can be tapped at every farm, furnishing power to run all kinds of farm and household machinery and also all kinds of farm and household machinery and also all kinds of farm and household machinery and also all inecessary light. A neighborhood may procure traction wagons which will draw their power from the overhead wire upon the road, and ordinary farm wagons may be hitched on, train-fashion, and sent to town. This scheme for furnishing power to farmers seems economical and practical and the progress of the experiment will be watched with interest. As to the simple generating machinery—the waterwheel and dynamo—it almost runs itself. Some farmer's boy, living near, would quickly learn to manage it, and it would require but a small portion of his time at that.

"Comfort's" Christmas Box.

A PRESENT TO EACH READER WHO SECURES ONE NEW SUBSCRIBER BEFORE NEW YEAR'S DAY.

New Subscriber before New Year's Day.

We little know how easy it is to accomplish any given thing until a trial is made, and we want every reader of our Christmas Comport to just ask a friend to subscribe and then receive a present from Comport's old Santa, who has got Thousands of pretty and useful articles to send by mail this year. The following is a partial list of presents to be given for one yearly subscriber at 25c., select the one you want. If a ring, send string size of finger.

A Heavy Band ring No. 24.

Marvelous Cluster, heavy gold plated ring No. 25.

Coral Lace Pin, rolled gold front.

Gold stock plate scarf pin.

Diamond Collection of Songs, containing 600 of the most popular pieces, words and music latest edition. Favorite Collection of 72 full sheet music size, all parts for piano or organ.

New Bull's Eye Dark Lantern.

Carl's Treasure Cabinet of hundreds of Games, Puzzles and Magic.

A Brocaded Silk Handkerchief.

A nice package of Remnants with Two Skeins of Silk for crazy patchwork.

A Pocket Dime Savings Bank, bolds \$5.00.

A Reliable Coin and Stamp Guide.

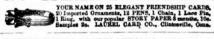
Sample package Self Threading Needles.

Magic Scholar's Companion.

Secure a Club of Twelve Subscribers and we will send one of each of the above named articles.

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A PRESENT.



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EDITOR'S NOTE. The following rules govern the

publication of all matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular ribers to Comfort, and every contribution must exciter's own name and post office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may exceed the latter limit. Contributors must write on one side of their paper only. Every month a number of prize monograms composed of the writer's initials, will be awarded to those sending the best contributions. These monograms, which will be most desirable ornaments for stationery, cards, etc., will be printed in connection with the respective letters, and new electrotypes of same will be mailed, post paid, to the prize winners. All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of COMPORT, Augusta, Maine.

DECEMBER PRIZE WINNERS. Lobert S. Virtue, Jessamine S. Slaughter, Lola Belle Roath, Harry M. Summers, ala Belle Roath,

J. W. Bothern.

Y DEAR FRIENDS:

Once more the blessed Christmas season is upon us, bringing a ray of sunshine across the dull old earth. Christmas does not mean to us what it used to in the careless days of our chidhood. Then it was a time of joyous mystery, when we searched slyly for the fascinating and mysterious bundles we had seen smuggled into the house, when we counted the days until the long looked for morning should arrive, when we could hardly wait for the day to dawn, that we might go down and look in our stockings. Our one thought was, "What will Santa Claus bring me?" It was to us a day of receiving, and in that its pleasure lay.

But that thought has mostly passed away; to us now the day has a more beautiful meaning, that of giveing, and we find our happiness in preparing gifts for those whom we love, and for the poor, in !lis Name. Let the children learn this lesson as early as possible; teach the little fingers to fashion simple gifts, crude though their efforts may be, for papa and mama, for brother and sister; and let them help in carrying Christmas joy to the poor. And thus, even in childhood, will they catch the true spirit of the day. Well now for the letters, the first is from Miss.

I will give your readers a description of this historic city and its surroundings. Vicksburg is situated on the Missishas a population of the sit of the south, as it strongholds of the confederates.

Hill City, and is Gibraiter of the also called the South, as it strongholds of the confederates.

pir o m i ne nt its early his-S. Prentiss of Portland, Me., who came here in 1832, and was one of the foremost lawyers of his day. In 1835 he represented Vicksburg in the state legislain the legisla-He was

among them is the Custom House, and the Coart House, which is of the Ionic order of architecture. One mile north of the city is one of the finest cemeteries in the U. S., in which 16,618 soldiers are buried who lost their lives in storming this Gibraltar of the South. Of this number, 12,719 are unknown. Here is a masterpiece of landscape engineering, and the imposing enrance arch, the verdant heights, and wondrous delta, form a grand memorial to those who died for the Uslow.

222 Washington St., Vicksburg, Miss."

"Have any of the cousins ever seen a burning moun-

"Have any of the cousins ever seen a burning moun-and not a forest fire burning along a mountain top, out a mountain that has a fire within. I saw one ner Famaqua, Penn., which has been burning for 50 years, and may burn as many more; it is underlaid and eamed with coal. On a damp day, and after a rain, clouds of steam may be seen rising along the moun-ain.

One day my friend Ben and I started to explore the Burning Mountain, and met with an experience which we did not bargain for. We followed a road nearly to the foot of it, then started to climb up the side. Sometimes it was easy walking, and then again we would plunge through underlying and then again we handled vines, slipping

experience which we did not bargain for. We followed a road nearly to the foot of it, then started to climb up the side. Sometimes it was easy walking, and then again we would plunge through underbrush and tangled vines, slipping and sliding over the rocks and stones hidden beneath, grasping limbs and bushes to pull ourselves up. Occasionally these would break, and back would slide and tumble, digging our heels and flugers in the soil to prevent sliding to the bottom and breaking our necks. Often I would "boost" Ben to a rock above, and then he would pull me up. And thus we made progress, at the expense of our shoes and clothes, of which we thought very little at the time. When nearly up, we saw a large vein of coal cropping out at the surface, several feet thick; we could follow it for 200 feet.

At last we reached the top, and began to look for signs of the fires smouldering beneath us. A few steps more, and we beheld a curious scene. Before us large open space, surrounded by dead and wilding trees, their dried leaves and bare limbs rusting and groaning in the breeze, and looking so mournful. There were no signs of vegetation, not even grass, on this spot. The surface of the ground was covered with rocks and stones of a burnt gray color. Picking some of these up, we found they were warm, and the ground underneath them was warm and slightly moist. Out of cracks and crevices in the ground, there issued little jets and clouds of vapor; these contained noxious gases, and would almost suffocate one if breathed in. Here evidently the firm was burning close to the surface.

Beyond us, we noticed a depression, from which issued a large cloud of steam and vapor. Ben walked to the edge of the hole, which was about 4 feet deep, and looking the property of the surface and the property of the surface and the property of the surface.

Beyond deep of the hole, which was about 4 feet deep, and looking the property of the surface and the property of the surface and the property of the surface and the property of the surface a

there, coiled around the steam-hole, as if to be warm, was a large black snake. We both ran for stones, and gave him a volley. One of the stones struck him, and jammed his head into the soft earth. I had a long piece of twine in my pocket, and made a slip knot in it. In the meantime, Ben got the snake by the tail to pull him out. He pulled, but the snake did not come, only about an inch of his tail, which croke off in Ben's fingers. A second time we pulled, and another piece of his tail broke off. I then dropped the slip noose half way down the snake's body, and pulled, while Ben stood ready to kill it when it came out. That snake stretched like rubber, but at last I got him out: he was thoroughly mad, and his eyes shot fire, while his tongue played in and out. He made a spring at me, but I kept far enough away from him, and after quite a fight, we killed him, and hung him from a branch as a warning to others. He very poisonous.

We did not stay here yery long, for we were now

was a big one, 4 feet long, and of a kind said to be very poisonous.

We did not stay here very long, for we were now waiking over a volcano which might cave in and bury us in hot coals, and it was too risky to make a long stay. Some surveyors, while surveying across the mountain, were digging post-holes, when they came upon hot coals, and some of the holes caved in. The men picked up their spades and fied without stopping to investigate further, and dug their post-holes a good distance off afterwards.

to investigate further, and dug their post-holes a good distance off afterwards.

ROBERT S. VIRTUE, 295 Bank St., Newark, N. J."

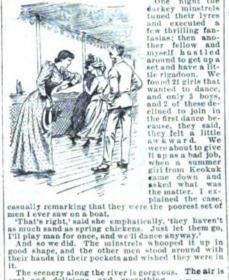
"I am a newcomer among you, and should like to 'start off on the right foot,' if I only knew how. However, I will give you, as a starter, a sketch of a Mississippi river trip on the steamer Sidney.

There was a good supply of water in the river, so we glided along gently over the sand-bars, and did not hit bottom more than a dozen times between St. Louis and St. Paul. Among the passengers were a couple of ministers on a vacation, a professor, a goodly number of schoolma'ams and summer girls, a few Southern gentlemen, and a big Hat Gaskins sort of a chap with a fiaming Alliance badge pinned on his preface.

preface.
s a class, the people that travel by boat seem to easy-going, don't-care-a-continental sort, who we plenty of time at their disposal, and are trying dispose of it as easily and gently as possible. The mmer girl, of course, is always as frisky and gentle a spring lambkin, and on a steamer she is in her

glory.

I had carefully looked over the outfit of maiden passengers, and selected the one I should rescue if the boat should spitt on a rock or go up in flames. In my dreams I felt inwardly hopeful that the catastrophe would occur, because I would enjoy the pleasure of wading ashore with her sitting on a plank and floating by my side! One night the



One night the éarkey minstrels tuned their lyres and executed a few thrilling fan-tasias; then ano-ther fellow and around to get up a set and have a lit-tle rigadoon. We found 21 girls that wanted to dance, and only 3 boys, and only 3 boys,

their hands in their pockets and wished they were in it.

The scenery along the river is gorgeous. The air is cool and delicious, and everything seems calculated to make a fellow feel as though he could hug his dearest enemy with great pleasure. The boat stopped at all the largest places, several hours, and everybody took in the sights. The captain was a jolly, good-natured man who wouldn't leave a person if he had to wait an hour.

Many things more I might tell, but not to bore you, I will say good-bye!

HARRY M. SUMMERS,

Keytesville, Mo."

"We live in what was once a part of the 'Old Dominion,' but now constitutes the little mountain State of West Virginia. This county, named in honor of Louis Wetzel, the famous Indian fighter, lies south of the Pan-Handle on the Ohio river. Farming is the

minion, but now constitutes the little mountain State of West Virginia. This county, named in honor of Louis Wetzel, the famous indian fighter, lies south of the Pan-Handle on the Ohio river. Farming is the chief interest, but the mineral wealth of the State is great, as is also its lumbering interest. Petroleum is found in large quantities in many parts of the State, and is creating considerable excitement in some sections. West Virginia has one of the best free school systems in the country, and in the race for educational honors, bids fair to outstrip the older and wealthler States.

J. F. Hale's article on the nose forms quite a study, and a valuable one too. Oh, that the human family would arouse to a sense of the danger which issues forth to many of them from bottles and glasses, and forever and eternally banish from the vision of mankind such a pleture as is truthfully portrayed in No. 6 of Mr. Hale's sketches!

Lewis E. Lantz, Lot, W. Virginia."

"I fully agree with the Simple Cynic about love; the truest and noblest natures appreciate love for all it is worth. Of course, man, the great lord of creation, who off'times goes forth with a carmine nose, was made first; then came woman, but they say second thoughts are best. Man is the head, wants to be the head, and should be the head; if God had not meant it so, He would have taken a bone from Adam's leg to make Eve, then man would have to lean on woman. No, He took a rib from man's side, that the two may walk equal, side by side, through life. Some think that theory of Darwin's, that man was descended from an ape a deep and bitter degradation. But I would rather consider my father an ape, than see him lying in the gutter, a drunken man! Will God know him when he has laid down his soul on the altar of the devil—the devil of gluttony and intemperance? No generous emotion can live within him—no high and holy love can move that degraded heart. Behold the man, 'made in the image of God,' as he reels forth from the saloon, pouring forth blasphemy against Heaven

Your nephew, CHARLIE HANFORD, Jacksonville, Fla."

Your nephew, Charlie Hanford,

Your nephew, Charlie Hanford,

Yaksonville, Fla."

"May I come again and say a few words about this
beautiful State? We never have any rain here except in the months of Jan., Feb., and Dec., these being the winter months of Calif. In the summer
everything is very dry, and has to be irrigated; and
the irrigating systems of the State are fast becoming
a nuisance. The water has all been gobbled up by
speculators, until the farmer finds it almost impossible to get enough for his crops, and that at such
enormous prices that it costs almost as much to irrigate as the crops are worth.

Another important feature in this country is mining. There are all kinds of mines, gold, sliver, copper and the celebrated Temescal tin mines are only 8
miles from my home. These mines comprise part of
a tract of land known as the San Jacobo Estate,
which was formerly a Mexican land grant. Besides
tin, there are some very rich gold and silver mines,
and a large portion of the land is very valuable for
agriculture. The estate is owned by English capitaists, and the majority of the men employed are Cornish; but most of the machinery is of American manufacture. The mines until lately, have not been paying expenses, owing to the amount of hard work
which had to be done before the ore could be extracted. But the ore has lately been discovered in a
practically pure state, and in large quantities, so
that a large amount of pig tin is now being put out.
The ore is an oxide, and averages from 40 per cent to
95 per cent tin.

WILL A. WILLIAMS.

South Riverside, Cal."

"How many of the cousins have studied Volapuk?
I have studied it considerably, and would advise all

to take it up. Instead of reading novels and light literature, devote your spare moments to this study, and you will be surprised at the rapidity with which you will acquire it. Already thousands of people in the Old World use it as an every day language, and it has been introduced into several of the public schools of the U.S. Think of the immense amount of time and money that might be saved by the use of this and money that might be saved by the use of this rapidly of the control of the public schools and money that might be saved by the use of this and more that might be saved by the use of this rapidly of the saved by the of the marble trade of Vermont. Do you know, cousins, that Vermont produces more and better marble than almost any other country in the world? A few miles north of Rutland are numerous marble quarries. Some of them are several hundred feet deep, and the workmen at the bottom look like dolls to one looking down upon them. All this land, which could not now be bought for a good many millions of dollars, was once sold for an old horse worth about fifty or seventy-five dollars.

"New Orleans was founded in 1718 by
"New Orleans was founded in 1718 by

"New Orleans was founded in 1718 by
Jean Baptiste de Bienvile, a French
Canadian. At present the population
numbers about 240,000, one-half consisting of French and Spanish Creoles, both
the French and Spanish Creoles, both
the French and Spanish Rose that
hangs so gracefully from her great live oak and
cypress trees. Many and interesting are the sights
in this Sunny Southern city. To the stranger the
French Market
is a decided curiosity, passing





teamers
There are seventy-five hospitals, infirmaries, asylums
and convents
Thirteerehurches
twelve public

negroes load-ing and un-loading cotton from the steamers

buildings, and
eight public squares. February,
March and April is the season for
magnolias, roses and many other
beautiful flowers that grow here
in profusion. It is at this season of the year the celebrated Mardi Gras takes place and visitors coming
here from all parts of the country find plenty of enjoyment, under this, the Italian skypot America.
I fear I am making my letter too long, so will step
aside and let another cousin in.

LOLA BELLE ROATH, New Orleans, La."

Lola Belle Roath, New Orleans, La."

"I haven't time to stay a minute, but I just want to say a word to the boys. I tell you, boys, I, for one, don't think it one bit smart or 'cute' in you to be always telling how no-account you think we girls are. We know you don't mean it, and even if you did, you need not think you can convert any of us. Now there's Cousin Leet says he can make bread' and coffee—yes, and jack-rabbit pie. All that is necessary, of course. Some men think that women are only fit for such things. And then he says girls are 'so fickle.' W. W. B., this is your fault; you started all this. You made yourself so popular by the letters you wrote, that all the other fellows thought they would join in and share your popularity. You, who are trying to do so much good, should not set a bad example!

are trying to do so muen good, snould not set a base example!

Now, boys, this won't do. You had better "fess up,' as the darkeys say, and acknowledge that you were just trying to do something a little extra, and that you don't mean a word you say.

I have been wanting to write for a long time, and have just wished that I was a cowboy, bandit, pirate, or something awful, so that I could tell you all about it. But as I knew such things were impossibilities, for I am only a girl, a "nulsance," and a 'bother, 'I had to say my say anyway.

MARGUERITE STEELE, Monticello, Mo."

had to say my say anyway.

MARGUERITE STEELE, Monticello, Mo."

"By way of introduction to your circle, I will tell you about a dance to which I had the honor to be invited. The dance was held down on the bottom,' so a number of friends and myself rode on horseback down to the river. Presently the sound of the war-whoops broke upon our ears. At the same moment, the thoroughbred horses which some of the party were riding, scented the Indians, and with terrified snorts, backed and reared, and refused to go on. So their riders were obliged to return home notens colens. But the rest of us, mounted on Indian ponies who were undisturbed by the clamor, rode on, and presently came in sight of the camp.

Before 1 go farther, let me explain why this dance was celebrated by all the Gros Ventre, Arickaree, and Crow Indians, in order to propitiate the Great Spirit, that they may secure an abundance of grass.

We halted at a respectful distance, and watched them. Before each teepee a bright light was burning, casting flickering shadows on the tents. The clamor had subsided, and the braves, gorgeous in paint, feathers, and war bonnets, were seated in a circle, sile



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when you can now obtain for the small sum of \$4.55 a handsome genuine it harst gold plated hunting case, full engraved watch with a fint-clase full jeweled movement, a perfect time keeper, genuine full plate handsomely damaskeened and ornamented, fully equal in appearance to the watches regularly sold by jewelers at from \$25 to \$25. In carrying this watch you have the credit of carrying a sold gold watch, as the plating process is get down so fine now-day that it is almost impossible to detect the difference. The engraving on the case of the control of th

Prelinary effer for next 30 days.

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they were exhausted and dropped out. The squaws and pappooses of course, could not join them, but they kept up a prolonged yelling, and with the dogs barking and howling, and the ponies neighing, it seemed as if pandemonium had broken loose.

After watching them for some time, we started for home. They did not stop their performances because the 'pale faces' had left, but kept up their anties until they supposed they had fully propitiated the gods of the harvest.

JESSAMINE S. SLAUGHTER,
Bismark, N. Dak."

I find among my letters two excellent arguments on the subject of woman's rights, so-called, presenting both sides of the question in a fair manner; and it will be well for us to consider them carefully. With these we will close the discussion of this subject for the present.

the present.

Aunt Minerva:—The following words appeared in your interesting paper from a writer, speaking on woman's rights, "Can a woman stand behind the curtain of ignorance, and think it her divinely appointed mission to be a mother and look after the welfare of the kitchen, when her good influence is needed at the ballot box and in the court-room?" Can any woman forget that her good influence is more needed and is more productive of good results in her own home, than it would be at the ballot box or in the court-room?

than it would be at the ballot box or in the courtroom?

To every creature, animate and inanimate, God has
given a mission, and to most women, though not to
all, He has given the divinely appointed mission of
being mothers, as well as the means of fulfilling it
properly.

The true Christian mother has not the making of
laws it is true, but she has a hand in the shaping of a
nation, by the proper training of her children, who
are to be our future citizens, and preparing them for
the exercise of their elective franchise, and no one
can deny that a woman's suffrage, offered through a
fine group of boys, is more efficient than her single
vote would be had she entered the political slough
where she must cease to be woman, wife and mother
before she can "take the law in her own hands and
enfore it."

enfore it."

If the laws are lax, certainly it is deplorable, but
evils exist even in the best of governments, and ours
is one of the very best, and after all men will manage
affairs to suit themselves and regard with feeling a
tip ty and contempt the feeble efforts of woman in this
direction.

pity and contempt the receive end to the did direction.

Women may rule, and supremely too, by the old, old fashion of love, in their own homes, where they have a higher work to perform than the cooking of a meal, or looking after the welfare of their kitchen.

All women of whatever age, rank or mental capacity, have a vote to poll in the great election of right and wrong; if they vote for victue, they will certainly succeed beyond expectation in the revolution of corruption. Theirs is the vote that counts, the decisive move, let it be upward and Godward forever.

Aurelia.

"I am truly glad you have opened your columns to a free discussion of a subject so full of vital interest to the oppressed of our land, and I am glad that Glara Stevenson speaks so plainly and sensibly. As long as woman is held amenable to the laws of the land, it is but just that she should have a say in making those laws.

as woman is held amenable to the laws of the land, it is but just that she should have a say in making those laws.

I don't think any harm will come from a full and evilghtened discussion of the subject of woman's rights. Let any one contemplate the shame, degradation sorrow and wretchedness that come to wives, mothers and daughters to-day, and think of the utter impossibility of redress or relief under existing laws, and it seems to me there will be a yearning to have matters adjusted upon an equitable basis. Some one in a recent convention has given expression to a sentiment that I hope will become a watchword and battle cry until these wrongs are righted. Here it is: "We demand for women in shops equal pay, and at the polls with men equal say."

When this is accomplished do you think pure, innocent girls of ten and twelve summers will be left unprotected and the victims of the uncontrolled passions of brutal men? Do you think that mothers who went down to the gates of death to give life to their sons, will license and protect gin-mills to destroy the bodies and souls of these sons?

Woman is a moral being as well as man, and often her sensibilities are keener and more refined than man's, and-possessing as she does quick perceptive powers, and intuitive conceptions of the right, it seems to me that the civil and moral code of our land will receive a wonderful uplift when woman comes to have an equal say with man at the polls.

"The daily stage coach running from Cave City to Mammoth Cave. Kv.. takes the passenger through a

seems to me that the civil and moral code of our land will receive a wonderful uplift when woman comes to have an equal say with man at the polls.

GEORGE'S WIFE.

GEORGE'S WIFE.

"The daily stage coach running from Cave City to Mammoth Cave, Ky., takes the passenger through a desolate country. The occasional huts of the negroes, about the size of a large packing box, with no windows and a piece of stove-pipe through the roof to serve as a chimney, make the scene even more dull and unattractive.

The passing of the stage-coach is an event in the dull lives of the occupants of these huts, and in every door is a little group gazing out. As our coach rattled along one picturesque group at tracted my attention. A negress stood in the doorway wearing a red turban and a red flannel skirt. On each side clung a pickaninny, black as ebony, while a roaring fire of pine logs formed a background which completed a picture worthy of an artist's brush.

On the day of my trip to the cave there was but one other passenger, and we did not reach the Cave Hotol until an hour after dark. We had just finished super when an old negro guide came in and asked if we wanted to visit the cave that night. This we decided to do. The entrance to the cave is about 150 feet back of the hotel, in a hill which rises to a height of about 120 feet. The entrance itself is about 30 feet high and 20 feet across; and is guarded by large iron gates, which are kept securely locked except when opened by the guides to take tourists in or out. These guides are instructed to carefully count their party both on entering and returning, so that in case any one is missing prompt search may be made.

The temperature of the cave always remains 54 degrees Fahrenheit. My visit was in February, on a cold night, and as we entered the gates there was a strong rush of warm air. The guide told us to hold on, we were well in to the cave, and looking, we were well in to the the cave in a time of the cave properer extends about four miles into the heil, varying the mill, v

The cave proper extends about four miles into the hill, varying from 30 to 120 feet in height, and from 35 to 300 feet in breadth. Running out

on each side of the main passage are other passages which have already been explored for a distance of 75 miles, and much territory of this immense cave still remains unknown.

All about us were beautiful formations of limestone, some small and spherical, as in the 'Snow-ball Room,' whose walls look as if a crowd of school-boys had induged in a frolic by throwing snow-balls at the ceiling. In the other rooms the limestone formations were of irregular size and shape, and in the 'Smoke House' very little imagination was necessary to see large numbers of hams, shoulders and pieces of beef. Most of them, however, were shaped like icicles that were constantly growing larger, as each drop of the water that incessantly trickles down from the ceiling bears with it a grain of the soft limestone, that serves to build the stalactites and stalagmites that, in some cases, have met and formed grand and stately columns.

There seemed, however, a lack of brilliancy to these formations. The 'Giant's Coffin,' a huge formation 30 feet long and 7 feet wide, is so perfect in shape that it seems as if it must have been carved by the hand of man.

Our guide had provided himself with a knapsack containing pieces of paper soaked in coal oil, and leading us to one side of a room, bade us look through a sort of window from which, he said, we could see the 'Bottomless Pit.' Lighting some of the paper he threw it into a cleft in the rock, the dark sides of which were brilliantly illuminated by the glare, that running along the sides of the chasm, sank deeper and deeper until the light disappeared in a horrible gult below.

The 'Star Chamber,' a circular room of immense size, is one of the most picturesque and beautiful sights of the case of the rock, is a fark celler is

and deeper until the light disappeared and a notice guit below.

The 'Star Chamber,' a circular room of immense size, is one of the most picturesque and beautiful sights of the cave. The celling, of a dark color, is almost covered with small crystals so that one could imagine they were gazing into the starlight vault of the blue sky.

There is a feeling of relief, after all, in coming out of these wonderful passageways, with their curious formations and intense darkness. And we returned to our hotel thoroughly satisfied not to attempt any new explorations in Mammoth Cave.

J. W. Bottlern, Jersey City, N. J."

With kindest wishes for all, your affectionate

With kindest wishes for all, your affectionate Aunt Minerva.

An Unlooked-for Visitor.



ughapane of glass. Theteach-er grab-bed him

of glass. Theteacher grabbed him by the tail and pulled him and pulled him and pulled him all trying to get a whack at him, so, badly frightened, he down the term of the term of the work of the which there was no fire. The school teacher slammed the door, think-pipe tumbled down and out popped the fox through the pipe hole, black as a chimney sweep. He made a break for the window but was driven away, and after getting into various odd corners fled nimbly up a ladder into the garret. A neighbor was summoned, and he lifted his hound up into the attic and set him upon the fox. There arose a terrible racket and then down through the hole fell the dog and the fox. The fox dusted out of the door, with the hound close after him. When they got out into the middle of the next field the fox turned round, fairly thrashed the dog and then limped into the woods and got away.

He Saved Four Hundred Lives.



save the vessel from going broadside upon a reef.
Ensign Jackson bravely
led the crews into
the rigging, and
this human sail
kept the vessel off
the rocks for six
hours, by which
time they were
able to reach the
shore in safety,
saving the entire
crew, four hundred souls in all.
On account of
there being no vacancy in the service Ensign Jackson was honorably
discharged so on
afterwards, with a son was honorably discharged soon afterwards, with a year's pay. Two
United States Senators, from whose
State Jackson
had been appointed to Annapolis,
were proud of his

were proud of his courage and intropassed both houses, creating an addition to the number of Ensigns allowed by law and appointing Jackson to the vacancy. So he is now a full-fledged naval
officer, and in addition has the distinction held by
only two or three naval officers now living, of the
privilege of the floor of both branches of Congress,
by reason of his name being commended by legislative action.

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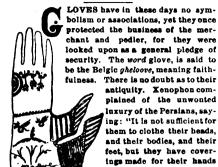
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ABOUT GLOVES.

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QUREN BLIZABETH'S GLOVE.

The use of gloves prevailed among the Romans, but not without opposition from the philosophers.

and fingers."

Denunciation, however, had as little effect in stemming the tide of fashion then as now, and oustom and comfort combining to recommend gloves, their use became general.

They were first introduced in England in the reign of Henry VIII; though they had long been the fashion on the continent. In Queen Hlisabeth's time they were adorned with numbers of precious stones and with embroideries; were highly perfumed, and in many instances, made to reach the elbow.



GLOVB.

Of the materials employed in glove making there is a very de- KING HENRY VIII sided limit. For conturies after

their introduction they were made only of skins. Gloves of cloth and knitted from thread of cotton and silk are but little in demand. Kid are the best but are more rarely met with than most people would credit. The majority of gloves sold as kid are made from lamb skin.

Kid-skins are nevertheless largely used, the kids being raised in several European countries to the great benefit of the peasantry. These kids are not allowed to roam at will, where they might injure their precious skins by pushing through prickly hedges, or rubbing against rocks and doorways, but are kept carefully confined under a coop. Here they are fed with milk only, for fear that a coarser food would give a corresponding quality to the skin.

A sense of the value of kid skins in ministering to the needs of fashion, led an enthusiastic individual some time ago to make a proposal to a New York millionaire, that they should unite in buying up all the goats in the world and so establish a monopoly of kid leather.

As a curiosity in commerce, gloves have been produced from spider silk be M. Bon. a French maturalist, who in the beginning of the 18th century GLOVE OF created a commotion in the scientific

MARY QUEEN world by claiming the spider as a OF SCOTS. successful rival to the silkworm. Since, however, it took six hundred thousand spiders to produce one pound of silk, and every spider of them would eat as many other spiders as they could capture, there is little hope of such fabrics coming

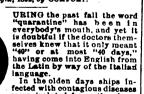
For centuries all gloves were made by hand, but now they are produced by automatic machinery, except one minor point, known as "felling the slitwelt"—that is, the turning over and hemming the welt on the edge of the opening of the gloves.

Bugland and France have large manufactories, but America produces gloves as elegant in workmanship and as desirable in quality as those of London or Paris. Gloversville, New York, is one of the centres of the industry in this country. Not only are gloves manufactured here in large quantities, but a special erder for a small number receives equal attention.

It is a popular idea that one can purchase gloves in London at cheaper rates than in our American cities and every traveler is laden with commissions of careful and economical friends, but comparison shows that what can be bought cheap in London is equally cheap in New York, if real value and persons trouble be taken in consideration.

THE YELLOW FLAG.

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In the olden days ships infected with contagious diseases
were isolated from the shore
for 40 days and that period was
called a quarantine.

The word has outgrown that first simple meaning and now
officials and even
government dispute
as to its legal significance.

When the cholera
was raging in Europe and thousands
were dying every
day from the terrible
disease, President
Harrison proclaimed
harrison proclaimed
a 20-day quarantine
against a 11 e migrant-bearing ships
hailing from ins, like those of Boston and New

grant-bearing snips hailing from infected porces.

In the great harbors, like those of Boston and New York, all the quarantine machinery of the government, the State and the city were put in operation to prevent the entrance of the "coma bacilina," as the scientists call the germs which carry Asiatic cholera. At the entrance of the harbor a quarantine ground was marked off with yellow buoys. Here every foreign vessel was ordered to come to anchor. As soon as a strange ship appeared the quarantine boat, a swift little ateamer with the yellow flag at her stern, would steam out to put the port physician aboard. The doctor would at once order the yellow flag run up to the mast head and until it was ordered down the vessel, her passengers and cargo were in quarantine.

101211.00

doctor's next duty was to find if there was any

were usually transfered to some island used as a harbor hospital.

If there were emigrants they were also taken off to an island to be disinfected. Their clothes and baggage would be put in a big chest and subjected to super-heated steam until all the germs of disease were dead. The immigrants, men, women and children, were taken to a bath house and given a thorough scrubbing. The hold of the vessel itself would be disinfected with the fumes of sulphur burned in great iron kettles.

Though the President's proclamation was not strictly enforced in all cases, a number of emigrant ships were detained for one or two weeks. That was a trying time for the healthy passengers.

They would then organize themselves into a body politic, elect officers, make speeches expressing their indignation and pass resolutions condemning the nuthorities for refusing to let them land. At other times they would fish over the vessel's side, or get up games and friendly contests.

The emigrants suffered most from the disinfection of their effects. Their clothes would come out of the process wrinkled and shrunken and sometimes absolutely ruined. Shoos that were new in London would come out of the steam both curled up into a solid, shapeless mass of leather. A No. 6 glove would shrink down to an inch in width and one woman's seal skin sacque came out so small that a baby could not have worn it.

A New York importer brought over some bedsteads of burnished brass and bedroom furniture painted a pure white. After being fumigated with sulphur the brass bedsteads were streaked with black and the white furniture was an lovery yellow. He sold the articles as antiques and at from \$25 to \$100 apiece more than they would otherwise have brought.

The quarantine work is practically over for this season, but with warm weather the danger may return and with it the quarantine.

DOWN! DOWN!! DOWN!!!

Written for COMFORT.



WENTY fathoms under the sea strange world from which no traveller except the professional diver, ever returns.

sional diver, ever returns.

The diver who is "going down," takes more pains with his tollet than the actor who is to appear in a play or the society belle who is preparing for a grand reception. His dressing room is an open ship's boat that has an Iron ladder running over the stern, or sometimes it is the deck of a scow anchored alongside a sunken wreck.

First the diver folds his trousers his trousers

folds his trousers into long woolen stockings and draws other stocking legs over his arms. Then he gets into a united garment of four-ply rubber canvas that comes to his should ers and fits over sand fits over the sail to the breast the suit to the breast was down the clamps

plate with brass flanges and screws down the clamps until the connection is tight. Then he puts on the diver's feet iron-soled shoes that weigh 10 or even 30 pounds apiece and straps a 60-pound leaden belt around his waist, where a knife and other tools are

fastened.

The diver is almost dressed and gets over the side ready to drop into the water. His suit is air and water tight up to the collar that surrounds his neck. The air pump connected with the neat coll of rubber hose is started, the big copper helmet is placed over the metal collar and fastened with a quarter turn. The helmet is a foot in diameter so that inside of it a man can turn his head in any direction. In front and on the sides are plate glass eyes guarded by brass bars. There is a tube which admits the air from the air pump and a valve at the back which opens wide enough to let the air escape but not enough to allow the water to enter.

air pump and a valve at the back which opens wide enough to let the air escape but not enough to allow the water to enter.

The life line is fastened around the diver's waist so that it cannot slip and with it the assistant lowers him carefully over the side. The suit fills with air and like a big porpoise the diver rests for a moment on the surface of the water. Then he disappears and only the bubbles on the surface show where has been.

Armed with a powerful electric search light he makes his way into the cabins of sunken ships fer gold or other valuables. He must carefully retrace his steps following the hose and life line for if they are tangled he is beyond help.

Sometimes his work is to cobble up holes in sunken vessels so that they can be pumped out and raised, sometimes he puts in dynamite charges for blasting or works for years building walls of solid masonry which used to be built with greater danger under the old-fashioned diving bell. He is often employed to search for the bodies of persons who have been drowned.

Diver Beane was wonderfully successful once when

search for the bodies of persons who have been drowned.

Diver Beane was wonderfully successful once when he brought up from the bottom of Long Island Sound a valuable diamond ring lost by a member of the Larchmont Yacht Club.

"The fish are not atraid of a diver," said old Dave Smith who was in the business 15 years ago. "Why, the flounders would follow about my heels like chickens and I often caught lobsters and sent them up on my life line. Lobsters crawl forwards but swim the other way. They give two or three flaps with their tails, straighten out and shoot backwards like an arrow."

"A man can work for hours at 15 fathoms but at 20 he can't do much as the pressure of the water is too great. In England they have suits made with steel rings that take the pressure. When I first went into the business we did not have electric lights to take down but used a 50-pound lantern that was supplied with air by means of a separate hose and air pump."
When Vanderbilt's palatial yacht was sunk in Vineyard Sound Diver Sullivan nearly lost his life in the luxurious cabin, for an accidental blow broke the globe of an incandeacent lamp, which exploded with so much violence that it cracked one of the glasses of his helmet.

Sullivan also went down to the Steamer Whitney when it was sunk in Boston harbor and found a

his helmet.

Sullivan also went down to the Steamer Whitney when it was sunk in Boston harbor and found a ragged hole over 25 feet square. He blasted off the rough edges of the iron hull, patched the hole with planks and canvas so that the steamer was pumped out and raised. The case was remarkable because the Whitney was raised with all her cargo on board.

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What About Stuffed Cats? AND REAL LIVE ONES ALSO.

What About Stuffed Cats?

AND Beal Live Ones Also.

When we see the dear good cat sitting upon the hearth do we ever stop to think what a great comfort they are to have around the house? Oh myl how overrun we would be with mice and what destruction would follow if the dear old Tabby Cats should all be suddenly taken away, and how much the dear pets would be missed. Why, in some countries homes for homeless cats are endowed with a great deal of money and they used to be embalmed at death so great was the respect and sacredness of the pets. One of the greatest achievements of modern invention and marvels of improved machinery is the turning out of suffed cats. We do not mean that they are manufactured all stuffed, only all ready to stuff. It was never thought possible to reproduce cats hairs or manufactured all stuffed, only all ready to stuff. It was never thought possible to reproduce cats hairs or manufacture cat skins on or from heavy cloth, but really such seems almost to be the case. The ingenuity of man never seems to be brought to a standstill and the latest product is just perfection in cate; they are full life size, 13 inches high produced in colors, being the most perfect representation of a household cat that one can imagine. They come all ready to stuff with cotton (or any waste material) and by simply sewing together you have a cat looking so natural that you or your dog could not tell it from a real live one. Tie a ribbon around its neck, set it on the hearth or up to the window and a rare and novel ornament is the result. The Children? why, they just go wild over the dear sweet things, it is the most lasting and novel plaything ever invented and they last a lifetime, being like the Doils advertised in another column industructible. The beauty of it all is that the Publishers of Comport are going to give one away to all the little Girls or Boys or Men and Women who will send in one new yearly subscription for 25c., or if you had rather send if 5c. for a hire emonits subscription and a cat we send t

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See the array of testimony on page 5 of this paper. It will prove of vital interest to all who are poor in purse or health.



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CONTEXTS: h, how death. nvil chorus h, my words. sailor's love. A seilor's love,
A love son,
A love for,
A love for,
A love for,
Bets for,
Bets for,
Bets for,
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Bobni's around,
Bonnie Doon,
Bonnie Doon,
Bonnie Dondee,
Billy boy,
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Boy mine,
Belo Brandon,
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Bon Discay.

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Bob up serenely.

Blue cycd Mary.

Brave Wolfe.

Bachelor's fare.

Bessy's mistake.

Canaan. in. Herrin'.

First love.
First

Over there.
Oh, Mr. Coon.
Old J.c.
Ole Pec Dec.
Old King Crow.
Oh, Arnbella.
Peor old maids.
Pesky Ike.

"—N. V. World
The blue bird.
The paring.
The advice.
The fairy boy.
The Ingleside.
The resolve.
Tulochgorum.
Tis better so.
Thou art mine.
The resolve.
The larg green.
The packers.
The procedure.
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The witchman.
Twilight dews.
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The waternill
Unspoken.
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When I behold.
Ys meary birds.
Ta-boom-ta-ri Snap.

Alice Gray.

By eand bye.
By eard bye.
Captaia Jinis.
Believe me.
Captaia Mins.
Believe me.
By an O'Lynn.
By an O'Lynn.
By an Boru.
Bobbin' around.
Bonnie Dundee.
Boling by an Bonie.
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Boling by an Bonie.
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Berare.
Berare.
Beland Brandon.
Prantifet bells.
Figing frames.
All of the above and 44 other songs including the great popular songs Comrades, Tare when well and there songs including the great popular songs Comrades, Tare are book.
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All stories must be original and contributors may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace; of city or country life, or of experiences on land or seabut no story must contain more than 1200 or less than 800 words. No manuscript will be returned unless an addressed and stamped envelope is enclosed.
The writer of the best original story will receive \$20 cash; of the second best, \$16 cash; of the third best, \$10 cash and of the fourth best, \$5 cash.
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The prize winners for December are:

Granville Sharpe, \$20.00. Emma Olive Kemp, \$15.00.

L. S. Worth, \$10.00. Wm. Wrightman, \$5.00.

Pie Crust and Poetry; or, Romance

in a Rolling Pin. BY GRANVILLE SHARPE.

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HALIDAY was in a dilemma. She was minus a cook. Somehow, though the house

in which Mrs. Haliday lived was one of the finest in town, and her family one of the best, she was always having trouble with her

servants. She had, within the past six weeks, dismissed one, another had given warning and left on the same day, while the third, a ponderous, loud voiced woman, fail ing to be even so considerate as the other two, had absconded in the night with a set of souvenir spoons!

No wonder the good lady was in despair and

hailed with relief a letter from an old acquaintance,

hailed with relief a letter from an old acquaintance, to whom she had written her grievances, which said, by way of postscript:

"If you are not yet supplied with a cook, I can send you one who I feel sure will prove satisfactory. She is an American girl, and I can recommend her highly. If you wish her to come, write or telegraph."

Mrs. Hailday had telegraphed, and was now awaiting the arrival of the girl, whom she longed to see, as her wealthy and single aunt, Miss Dorcas Walker, and her only son, who practiced law in a distant city, were both with her, as it happened, and they were both particular to a nicety.

A ring from the door bell interrupted her reflections. She answered it herself. Before her, as she opened the door, stood a young woman in a plain black dress and hat. She was extremely pretty, with soft black hair, sunshiny brown eyes, and a mouth both decided and sweet.

"Does Mrs. Hailday live here?" she asked, rather timidly. "Perhaps I ought not to have come to this door," she added, noting Mrs. Hailday's perplexed look. "I am the—the person whom you engaged as cook."

"Oh yes! The cook!" said Mrs. Hailday, im-

look. "I am the—the person whom you engaged as cook."
"Oh yes! The cook!" said Mrs. Haliday, immensely relieved. "What is your name?"
"Fanny Moore."
"Well Fanny, come in. I am glad you have come for I need you badly," said Mrs. Haliday kindly, but the girl stood motionless, her eyes fixed on some object behind that lady with an expression of startled astonishment. Turning around, Mrs. Haliday saw no one but her aunt Dorcas, who also was acting trangely. She was looking directly at the new cook, with an expression of surprise.
After the girl had disappeared under the escort of the chamber-maid, Mrs. Haliday said, laughingly:
"Aunt Dorcas, what sort of a spell did you cast on my new cook? She looked as if she had seen a ghost!"
"Oh! I was merely looking at her. you know: she

above the elbow, revealing two charming dimples; but somehow when he stood before her all his coolness vanished and he said awkwardly:
"Excuse me, Fanny, but I brought these magazines down for you."
"Yes," said Fanny seriously, without looking up, for she was holding the pie platter suspended with one hand, while she carefully cut the overhanging crust with a blunt knife with the other, "but why did you bring them?"

crust with a blunt knife with the other, "but why did you bring them?"

"Well, because I saw you reading Emerson the other day, and so fancied you would appreciate some such reading," said Percy kindly.

"Are you sure it was Emerson? Must have been a cook-book," said Fanny absently.

"It was Emerson; but I am sure you have no need to be ashamed of it," said Percy, laying down the magazines. But he paused, being struck with the beauty of the cook's hands. The tapering fingers, beginning with a dimple at the knuckles and ending with pink, well-kept nails, were different from those of any of the cook's his mother had ever had. Next his gaze wandered up to the well-shaped head, set so proudly on the firm white throat. There was a refinement and sense of good breeding in the atmosphere of that kitchen which impressed him.

That night he dreamed that Fanny, as Cinderella, was driving away in a chariot made of a pie-platter. The next day he made an excuse to the kitchen to get a hammer which he did not need, and this time he found her looking over a French book.

"Do you want to learn French?" he asked. "Perhaps I can help you."

"Very well," said Fanny philosophically handing him the book. "I am very rusty on my French," she added.

"I am afraid I am a little rusty too," acknowledged Percy; and it presently anneared that if any tage.

she added.
"I am afraid I am a little rusty too," acknowledged Percy; and it presently appeared that if any teaching were done he would be the pupil, for Fanny's accent was the more nearly correct, and she spoke with a fluency he could not imitate.
Percy finally put down the book, his face kindling. "Why won't you trust me?" he asked.
"Because I don't like your accent," she answered softly.

"Because I don't like your accent," she answered softly.

"Oh, I don't mean the language; I shall never presume to teach you anything again. But—don't be angry—I am honest. I am sincere. You are above the position you are in. I know it would be my mother's pleasure to aid you—to be a friend to you—why won't you confide in her?" he blundered. Fanny's face grew flushed and serious, though a gleam of fun was in her eyes.

"You are kind—most kind," she said; then struck by a sudden idea, she looked up at him and added, "There is one thing I would like."

"Name it," he said eagerly.

"It is only a little information."

"You shall have it."

"And you will be honest with me?"

"Perfectly."

"Well then," she said with a quick-drawn breath.

"is my cooking perfectly satisfactory to you in every

"Perfectly."
"Well then," she said with a quick-drawn breath.
"is my cooking perfectly satisfactory to you in every

"is my cooking perfectly satisfactory to you in every way?"
"It is, most seriously," said Percy with a struggle to maintain his dignity, which utterly failed, and they simultaneously broke down and laughed.
"This is really a matter of importance to me," went on Fanny, at last. "See what I have been bold enough to write and get your mother to sign!"
Percy took the paper she handed him, and read:
"This is to testify that Fanny Moore has lived in my family for six weeks in the capacity of a cook, that she has faithfully executed all tasks assigned to her, that she has never been disrespectful or impudent, and that as a servant I find her competent and unpresuming."
Percy sat silent for a moment, then wrote a few lines on the opposite page. "This is my testimony," he said, handing it to her, and with a slight bow, left the room.

lines on the opposite page. "This is my testimony," he said, handing it to her, and with a slight bow, left the room.

Fanny took up the paper with trembling fingers, and read as follows:

"I believe in you not only as a faithful cook, but as a good and noble woman whom I love with my whole heart, and wish to marry. Please answer if I may hope.

Percy, as he ran blindly up stars, met a messenger boy, bearing a telegram, It was a call to go to a neighboring town on business. It was three days later when he returned, which he did just in time to join the family at dinner. His father was sipping his atter dinner coffee with a wry face. "This is very poor coffee," he said.

"Yes. We have a new cook. She is not as good as Fanny," said his wife.

"I do not know, dear, I am sure. How should know? She simply said she could not stay any longer," said Mrs. Haliday, regarding her son with surprise.

But that evening Aunt Dorcas received a visit from the young man who frankly confessed his intentage.

in the girl stood motionless, her eyes fixed on some object behind that lady with an expression of startled autonishment. Turning around, Mrs. Haliday saw no one but her aunt Dorcas, who also was acting trangely. She was looking directly at the new cook, with an expression of surprise.

After the girl had disappeared under the exort of the chamber-maid, Mrs. Haliday said, laughingly:

"Aunt Dorcas, what sort of a specific said and the cook? She looked as if she had seen a groat!"

"Oh! I was merely looking at her, you know; shi so—so pretty," said Aunt Dorcas, a faint color rising in her thin old cheeks.

But from that time the old lady took a great interest in the little cook. Fanny spent many an evening in her private sitting room, while the usually reserved old lady might often be seen chatting with the girl as she went about her tasks in the kitchen. But with regard to all fartless the state of the cooking formed a staple subject of conversation at meals. The kitchen, too, became a changed place. There were pretty shades at the windows, and an easy chair stood in a convenient corner, giving the room a homelike appearance.

It was not long before Mrs. Haliday's tall, handsome son discovered that they had a remarkable cook. Percy Haliday entered Aunt Dorcas' room one evening, and found Fanny reading Emersonis Easys aloud to thook that she read with appreciation. She colored with vexation at his entrance, and immediately made an excuse to leave the room.

The young man's curiosity was piqued. To meet with a cook who was at the head of her profession, was beautiful as a dream, who read Emerson and appreciated him, was singular enough, but that she should be so annoyed at being caught at such a page time work of the cook of the c

laugh. "Girls are romantic, you know, and, some-how, taking all things into consideration, I think ou'll have success,"
Time and after events proved this to be true!

THE DOMINIE'S STORY.

BY EMMA OLIVE KEMP.

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HERE are three things a minister is certain to remember to dying day. These three things are his first sermon in his own church his first wedding ceremony and his first

are closely connected. There was very little about the church that escaped my attention, on my first Sunday at Band I soon saw that all

was not harmony in the choir gallery opposite me. Rosie Dare, the postmaster's daughter, was the belle of the town, and her lover, Sam Marsh, was a leader among the young men of the place. They were both in the church

ter's daughter, was the belle of the town, and her lover, Sam Marsh, was a leader among the young men of the place. They were both in the church choir and their singing was the pride of the town. They sat side by side, as was necessary to the parts they sang, but on that Sunday their eyes never met. As son as the singing was over Sam retired to a back seat, giving place to a much older but prosperous-looking man, a stranger to me, but evidently no stranger to Rosie.

At the church door she introduced me to John Cooper, the stranger, adding significantly that they would call on me soon. She then took his arm and they walked away homeward together. Among the last to leave was Sam Marsh, who with a smile and a nod went his way all alone.

True to her word Rosic called on me the very next day with John Cooper, and astonished me greatly by saying, with a musical laugh, which I thought rather forced, "We have come to the parson to be married." On the way to my landlady's parlor where the wedding ceremony was to take place, I got an opportunity of speaking to Rosie alone. I asked her what had come between her and Sam, but only got for reply a defiant toss of the head, with the remark that "when she married a man, she wanted one that kept his engagements." I felt that there was a cruel mistake somewhere, but, as Rosie's parents who accompanied her seemed satisfied, I had no alternative but to proceed with my first wedding ceremony. The groom got through it very well, but the bride and I were nervous and ill at ease, and when the momentous words were uttered which bound her to the man whose hand she held, there was a tremor in her voice. She had regained her composure, however, when on leaving she invited me to visit at the house of which she was now the mistress.

From my landlady I learned that John Cooper was a wealthy widower some twenty years Rosie's senior, whose wite had been dead about two years. His only remaining daughter had been recently her constancy of the company of the parties of the parent with the part

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THE NUTSHELL STORY CLUB

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.)

heads, pricked up their ears, and jumped for their pluces at the poles, and the men were not behind them in taking their positions on the apparatus. Sam pulled me up beside him on the foot board of the engine as it started out, and he held tight hold of me or I should have been bounced off several times on the way.

Arrived at the fire my heart gave a great jump on finding it to be the Cooper mansion, and Sam was equally affected. Giving a few quick orders to his men, he sprang up to the front entrance of the house, soized an axc, with which he broke in the front door, and groped his way into the building. It was full of a thick smoke so that I was forced to retreat to the open air, gasping for breath while my eyes smarted and ran water.

Meanwhile Sam had made his way upstairs where he soon appeared at a window bearing the apparently inanimate form of Rosie. Willing hands quickly bore her down and into a neighboring house where she was finally brought back to consciousness after hard work. Her husband had been awakened in some manner and groped his way into the hall where he had succumbed to the volume of smoke rushing up the stairs. It was some time before they found him and then it was too late. Nothing could save his life, though everything was done that could be done, and he died. It was my sad duty to tell Rosie that she was a widow on her wedding night.

There was a notable gathering at the funeral of John Cooper for he had been rich and influential, and many were brought together out of curiosity to see the bride of a few short hours.

Rosie was greatly prostrated by her husband's death, and it was many months before she again took her place in the choir. But those weary months had been lightened by the knowledge that the old love on which she had turned her back had not been lost to heer.

About a year after that first wedding there was another at the little house which Sam built for Rosie and himself, and I performed the ceremony which made them man and wife.

A DECEMBER PICNIC.

BY L. S. WORTH.

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ET'S have a pic nic," was the suggestion made by Frank Estabrook one bright summer morning.

Now a December pienie would be a novelty in most parts of the country, but in Colo-rado Springs, at

the foot of Pike's Peak the suggestion was eagerly seized. A group of students of the Western Academy were gathered on the front steps of their boarding club. Some were from the far East and some were estives of the West, but they were all under the spell of the glorious Colorado sunshine.

of the glorious Colorado sunshine.

In an hour they were racing over the mesa toward South Canon. They made quite a procession altogether, for some were horseback, some in dog-carts and the rest brought up in the rear in a four seated mountain wagon, with always room for one more. Bessie Martiu on her little gray pony which she had bridght down from her father's ranch from the Upper Fountain, was galloping ahead. Beside her rode Frank Estabrook on a bob-tailed English cob. Prank was from New York and this morning was dressed in perfect form, as if for a turn in Central Park.

Fark.

Frank Estabrook was always in perfect form, from the top of his blonde head to the tip of his pointed shoes and though his rich father had sent him to the mountains for his health he was always a leader in academy matters.

Yet he was not popular. He had showered his courtesies on all the girls but lately had singled out the big ranchman's daughter for his particular attention. Bessie hardly knew whether she was pleased or not. She would not have been in doubt and not Tom Bailey spent the preceding winter at the academy and said a great many foolish things to her.

pleased or not. She would not nave open in quound had not Tom Bailey spent the preceding winter at the academy and said a great many foolish things to her.

But this morning, under the spell of the dazzling suntight, the rare air and the exciting gailop between the cacti beda, she blushed with pleasure at Estabrock's compliments. Tom Bailey was with his cattle down in New Mexico, and seemed far away. And besides perhaps he would never come back.

After a six mile ride the plenicers plunged into the Bouth Canon and followed the road between bright red and yellow cliffs, until a miniature waterfall checked their progress. Then the party left the Bouth Canon and followed the road between bright red and yellow cliffs, until a miniature waterfall checked their progress. Then the party left the Borses and like real explorers rambled off among the pines of the mountain side for a place to lunch.

That afternoon Frank and Bessie climbed to the top of a commanding peak and looked off over miles and miles of yellow plains. Then Frank told her that she was his ideal, said that he loved her and asked her to promise to be his wife. His words were gently earnest and fell pleasantly on Bessie's ears, but somehow the thought of Tom came to her.

"No. I can't promise you," she said hesitatingly, but Frank saw that she was touched, and determined that he would abide his time.

There was a suspicious muteness between Bessie and her escort when they started on the homeward journey, and Joe, Bessie's brother, noticed it. He shared the indefinite dislike that was felt for the superior Estabrook, and he had invited Tom Bailey to spend Christmas with him at the Martin ranch. But now he felt that the visit would be too late to do Tom any good.

"The poor fellow will have to spend Christmas," thought Joe, "but I'll have pity on him and take him to Denver the next day. He won't like it, of course, but I can't keep him shut up in the same house with that fickle sister of mine."

Letters travel slowly in New Mexico. It was only a week befo

colorado. Postmen do not go following round-up outfits, but in the fall when the beef cattle are gathered in and money is likely to be plenty a wandering peddler sometimes strikes the camp.

Tom and fifteen other cow-boys had been working hard for six weeks but their riding was almost over, for they were camped on the Little Forks only twenty miles from Tequesquite. Old Ransom, the peddler with his white covered wagon, was met with shouts of laughter and rough abuse, but old Ransom had under the white can as cover a barrel of real whiskey that he had made himself, and there were high old times that night in the La Junta outfit.

"Foxy" Jones, the captain of the round-up, did not allow that the men were tied to his apron strings and if they wanted to play monte and drink whiskey all night instead of going to sleep, it was none of his businees. He turned in under the mess wagon as sensible man should.

Tom Bailey rolled himself in his blankets under the mess wagon as sensible man should.

Tom Bailey rolled himself in his blankets under the mess wagon as sensible man should.

Tom Bailey rolled himself in his blankets under the mess wagon as sensible man should.

Tom Bailey rolled himself in his blankets under the mess wagon as the seemed to see a fight and hear pistol shots and be sprung out of his blankets and gazed to see a fight and hear pistol shots and he sprung out of his blankets and gazed to see a fight and hear pistol shots and he sprung out of his blankets and gazed to see a fight and hear pistol shots and he sprung out of his blankets and gazed as out him in the early dawn. Most of the cow-boys were sober now and Tom learned what had happened.

Manuel Correjos, one of the Mexican rancheros, had been dealing the monte game, and had lost heavily. When it came his turn to guard the bunched up cattle he had insolently refused to go. He had quarreled with "Foxy" Jones and they had been should may be a subject to the cow-boys were sober now and Tom learned what had they had been should may be a subject to the

Mexican lap in arony. All the relentiess hatred of the man was aronsed and in spite of the exquisite pain of his broken limb he freeze the exquisite of the uncoascious captain Manuel took deliberate of the uncoascious captain Manuel took deliberate at the content of the uncoascious captain Manuel took deliberate at with a scarcely a shudder, Foxy Jones died. The november of the ground of the scarcely as hudder, Foxy Jones died. The november of the ground of the scarcely as hudder, Foxy Jones died. The november of the ground of the scarcely as hudder, Foxy Jones died. The november of the ground of the scarcely as hudder, Foxy Jones died. The november of the ground of the scarcely as hudder, Foxy Jones died. The november of the ground of the scarcely as hudder, Foxy Jones died. The november of the ground of the scarcely as hudder, Foxy Jones died. The november of the ground of the ground

snow.

But he gave his tired beast the reins and urged him forward whither he would go. First it was a wire fence, then a high gate and then a dinly shining light that he brushed the ice from his eyes to see. A man never receives a welcome like that but once in his life.

light that he in the control of the

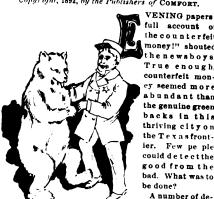
answering giance that niled him with politic happiness.

They did not need words then and besides Estabrook and the other guests were around them. But in the good old-fashioned dances that followed. Tom gave a gentle pressure to somebody's hand and Christmas Day he asked for the greatest present in the world and Bessie shyly gave herself.

THE EDUCATED BEAR.

BY WM. WRIGHTMAN.

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VENING papers; full account of the counterfeit money!" shouted the newsboys. True enough, counterfeit monthe genuine green backs in this thriving cityon the Texasfront-Few pe ple could detect the good from the bad. What was to be done? A number of de-

tectives were on the search for the guilty parties, but so cunning were the counterfeiters that their lawless proceedings could not be traced.

A mysterious feature of the case was the sudden disappearance of Captain Sweeny. He had been an officer during the Indian troubles, was an experienced hunter, and of late a public detective.

All sort of rumors were affoat. One of these was that he had been captured by the outlaws, to keep

that he had been captured by the outlaws, to keep him out of their way. This story was not generally believed, and it was thought that Captain Sweeny had his own good reasons for keeping out of sight during the excitement in regard to the counterfeiters.

Those who were suspicious of the captain were a stout, muscular man, and until his final disappearance was assured no one wanted him for an enemy. When the bad money was most plentiful a circus came to town. One of its attractions was an educated bear, whose tricks were the admiration of all beholders. Before the circus left town the bear broke loose and escaped. The manager did not concern himself greatly over his loss, owing to the brute's savage disposition, and the bear was now at large in the woods near the town.

One day as Tom Hawkins, a noted gambler, a man of powerful frame and great strength, was walking through the woods on the outskirts of the city, he heard the cracking of bushes, and, before he could turn to see what it was, felt a hairy arm around his neck and a kiss on his cheek.

Tom took in the situation at a glance, and, though for a moment tempted to shoot the beast, decided to keep him. The bear appeared perfectly docide and playful as kitted.

"Come along, old fellow; you're my bear now," said Tom, as he thrust his arm into the bear's and walked on.

It was not long before they feached a moss-covered and apparently solid ledge. Tom struck the

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night within doors. The moon looked big and bright as I gazed at its silvery face early this evening. How curi-ous to think, children, that since we saw it last

night the nude people in Africa have seen it; it has shone on the wild jungles of India, lit the snowy roadways of Siberia, blinked at its old friend the Sphynx in Egypt, has made weird faces at the Chinaman as well as the sleepy sailor on the trackless ocean. Great traveler is that moon. That reminds me of a story which a doctor

as well as the sleepy sailor on the trackless ocean. Great traveler is that moon.

That reminds me of a story which a doctor once told me.

There lived an old man near the base of Mt. Washington. His house was filled with polished animal bones—horses' jaws, bears' teeth, wolves' ribs, moose horns and like parts of creatures which once inhabited the woods. No one ever saw him in daylight, he always kept his doors closed until after the sun had set and the stars were in view. One Christmas night he was found dead, completely covered with the bones he had cherished for many years. When the people found him he held a piece of paper in each hand; on one was written "Burn the bones at midnight," on the other, "Open my mouth." When the bones were burning, the snow was falling, the winds roaring and moaning. It took until the early morning hours to consume the bones and just as the cock crew in a neighboring barn-yard, a vapory moon was seen hovering over the embers. It swayed to and fro, like a boat on the waves, its movements grew more rapid until finally with a bound it shot upward and was lost to sight in the whirling fury of sleet.

When the old man's mouth was opened the hext night, a soft phosphorescent light filled the place and the room was flooded with tiny stars even to suffocation. Opening the door, the people rushed madly out and found that the stars were pouring out of the chimney, falling about and burning them as they struck their faces. In perfect fright the men ran towards their homes, all the while the voice of the old man was calling them back. The doctor, cooler and braver than the rest, turned and entered the house once more. Shortly, a sepulchral voice slowly commanded the doctor to open his mouth, shut his eyes and count 100 quickly—the moment he had finished counting he leaped into the air and landed on the floor. Upon opening his eyes he saw his wife with a cundle in front of him, laughing outrageously. The doctor jumped into bed, remarking that "that was the cussedest dream he had ever had, a

WHO'D BELIEVE IT?

There was once a rooster in Wales, Who boasted he had two tails, When the wind one day, Blew his feathers

away, Since which he's all DOWN, on gales.

A SAILOR'S GAME

A SAILOR'S GAME
ON shipboard the sailor often passes many dull hours by spin n ing the "lucky top." It is an amusing toy and any boy can make it. Take a piece of square soft wood 1 1-2 inches long and linch thick. Make it six cornered and pointed. Bore a hole in the flat top and fit a match into it, half an inch showing. Number the sides as follows: 5, 0, 10, X, 20, 2. The game is played in this manner.

You twirl with thumb and forefinger, and, for the sake of illustration, when the top falls you find it with 5 on top. Your chum twirls and gets 20; you twirl and get 2; chum gets 2; you get 5; chum gets 0; you get 10; chum gets X ard loses all; you get 5; chum gets 20. The sam stands thus far:

You 5 Chum 20 "20"



Keep on spinning until one gets, on even spins, 50, which is a game, and three games won, one after the ochampionship for the evening. A SCENE IN EVERY

20

CITY.

I SAW a ragged little girl standing in front of a toy shop yesterday. She was looking at the dolls, I thought, and she stood there for five minutes completely absorbed. What do you suppose I did, children? Well, I stepped up to the sweet-faced unfortunate and said, "Would you like one of those dolls, little girl?" She looked me keenly in the eye and replied, "What dolls?" "Those in the window," I said, pointing at a row of prim. gaudy dressed dolls. She looked,

IS a comfortable and half-smiling remarked

and half-smiling remarked.
"I was n ot tooking at those, but at those, but at the picture books. My little brother would like to see them—he loves them."
My eyes filled for a second at sight of such an unselfish being. I must tell you, childen, that when I gave her the picture books and a pretty blonde doll, she turned pale, stood dumb for a moment, and then hanging her head, murmured, half choking with gratitude and joy, "Tim and I will always love you and wish you Merry Christmas." So intent was I in the matter, I did not notice that quite a group had gathered about and as the child was noving away several gentlemen stopped her and filled her hands with coins. Here, children, is 25 cents each. Carry it with you and stand near a toy shop and you will find lots of poor, very poor children looking into the window. Give them the quarter and take my word for it the joy you will have at the look which the child will give you will last you a whole year.

UBY, give me some of the molasses candy you made last evening. What,

UBY, give me some of the molasses candy you made last evening. What, have not got any! Well, you are like the tramp who was asked if he had a shirt to his back; he replied, "I haven't got any." and added, "if madame would be kind enough to sew one on to a button he had, he'd be obliged." This same tramp was afterwards arrested, and when the judge asked him if he ever washed himself, replied, "Yes, once a month, a 11 except my feet." "Why not your feet?" said the judge. "Cause my stockings are wished on," said the tramp with a grin.



snow-better make a fort or two and fight with

loose snow-balls.

Several years ago a little girl in my neighborhood made a snow man; it was a wonder and the papers remarked it. In the summer I saw the same girl make mud and sand figures at the beach. To-day she is but twenty years old and yet she has been awarded a medal in the great Paris Salon for her sculptured work in marble, and she now has a studio in Boston, Mass. Her name is Miss Theo Ruggles, and a lovely woman she is.

BIG BILL.

BIG BILL. THIS is Bill's own story, hildren. You can believe





it or not. The drawings are his also.
"I grew up a fool, they said in my town.
When I was thirty years When I was thirty years old I went West. I weighed two hundred pounds. Got work in an elevator of grain. Darned



There, children, it's only eight o'clock. Come, Ruby, let us all go out and make some candy; when we go to bed we will think presents. Come along, my Comforts.

UNCLE CHARLES.

A STRONG BID.

B.F.Johnson & Co., Richmond, Va., are making a strong bid through our columns for earnest work ers. Look up their advertisement and write them.

\$20 A WEEK Ladies receive who write for us at home, Reply with addressed slamped envelope Woman's Co-Operative Tollet Co., South Bend, Ind.

YOUR LIFE FUTURE in love, business, and in-riage. Written PREDICTION, 10c. Send age, sex, and lock of hair. ASTROLOGER, BOX 6278, Boston, Mass-

\$5.00 Daily paid Active People working for us. New goods, new plan of OHIO FALLS MFG. CO., Chicago, Ill.



18K Rolled Gold Diamond Ring Free.

A Gorgeously Beautiful Picture in magnificent coloring upon a back ground of pure gold; size, 15x22. In the center-resting upon a beautiful easel and supported by a slab of purest marble less open book in whith to register the names and birtist of each member of the family, on the left a birtist of each member of the family, on the left a soul on which to register the marriages and deaths. United the soul on which to register the marriages and deaths. Words, "Gold BLESS OUR FAMILY." Underneather spaces for Fathers' and Mothers' pictures, and all around are similar spaces in terspersed with most beautiful flowers and leaves buds and blossoms, row, and vines, etc., in varied colors and matchless beautiful and costly back ground of Solid Gold AGENTS. NOW IS YOUR TIME! Our regulations of the space of the solid spaces of the spaces of 50 for \$7.50; 100 for \$13.50; 500 and a Handsome Watch and Chain, \$65. All charges prepaid. STANDARD SUPPLY HOUSE, Chicago, Ill.





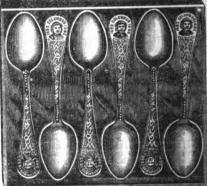
WATCH WHEN THE DOG COMES OUT. WATCH WHEN THE DOG COMES OUT.
This Weather Warning will faithfully forecast the weather for the ensuing 24 hours, so that you can get your own weather report without waiting for the newspapers to tell of which weather report is to be the second of the weather that the weather report is to be the second of the weather that the second of the weather that the second of the weather that the second of the second of the weather that the second of the s

FOR THE SURE AND SECRET CURE OF THE ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO CURSS. Tasteless, Harmless and Certain. Prescription series or Tobacco users. A marvelous success in even advanced cases. Inclose stamp. Can be given secretly in coffee, etc.

Dr. HIRAM COOK, 12 Park Row. New York.

Golumbus **Souven**ir

Silver Spoons Free.



ollowing prizes by sending a correct solution to collowing:

What word in this A rare opportunity development spells the same Backward as Forward.

We will give \$3000 Clash to the 1st person send correct answer. To the 2d, \$1002 to the 2 stop, and the next 10, a Boautiful \$25 Silk Dress. To left 25, a Nickel or Gold-Plated Watch. and of the next 50, a Genuine Diamond Ring. The set 25, a Nickel or Gold-Plated Watch. This extraordinary offer is made for the purpose of seng 100,000 new subscribers, and in order to secure oremium you are required to send 30 cents for one ye ubscription to Home Cheer. State the initials you dengraved and enclose 10 cents extra or 60 cents in all to cubscription, postage and packing expenses. Don't for

KENTON SMITH & CO., 27 Beekman St., N. V.

WONDERFUL WALKING DOLLS



A MARVELOUS MECHANICAL CURIOSITY

A MARVELOUS MECHANICAL CURIOSITY has lately been invented in the doll line. There are no springs to be wound or other encumbering contrivances to get out of order. A simple scientific appliance. They walk naturaly and alone as if by some hidden force. Not only are children delighted, but even the happy boy and girlhood days are brought back to the older ones who shake their sides and simply roar to see the Great Race of Races as these dolls representing the various male and female characters of different nations are started across the room or table. The life-like manner in which they seem to run past each other in the mad haste to win, or marching single file, tripping each other up or executing other comical feats. The contrast of the different colored lackets or suits, while the Soldier, Chinaman, Negro or little bollie herself speeds along, adds much to the novelty and enjoyment of the whole family of lookers on. We have secured the right to introduce this wonderful family to the millions all over the Union. To do so quickly and relying on future large sales for our profit, we will send one FREE all charges paid, to anyone sending 25 cents for a 6 months subscription or renewal to our beautiful magazine. Any kind of dolls always please the children but Genuine Walking Dolls are a joy forever. Address PUBLISHEIRS OF COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. A year's subscription and 2 dolls 50 cents. Get a club of 4 yearly subscribers at 25 cents each and we send you 3 dolls all different FREE.

Happenings Here, There * Yonder.

A penny was recently found embedded in the heart of a peach.

A man out in Michigan committed suicide by swallowing his undershirt.

A Kentucky man has been struck four times by lightning and still lives.

Queen Victoria has selected Sir Theodore Martin for the poet laureateship.

A letter written by a Russian and addressed "Jagago" was sent to Chicago.

"Jagago" was sent to Unicago.

A ragged old man, arrested as a vagrant in New
York City, produced bank books showing him worth

In Chinese the letter "In is pronounced 145 different ways, and each pronunciation has a different meaning.

The Chinese in America will contest the law com-pelling them to register their names and photo-graphs.

A stock dealer in Indiana has just died from the effects of an iron awl an incb long, swallowed thirty

some of the telephone patents are shortly to exire, and eventually this great monopoly will be pire, and broken up.

A tunnel is about to be driven into the centre of the rock of Gibralter in the hope of finding a supply of fresh water.

The French Minister of Finance proposes to partly take up a deficit in the year's Budget by taxing teycles about \$1.00 each.

bieyeles about \$1.00 each.

During the prevalence of cholera each German soldier is allowed three-quarters of a cent per day for the purchase of liquor.

In Boston the average wages earned by hands in factories have been found to be half as much again as they were ten years ago.

It is said that the Chicago fire of 1871 destroyed 1,000,000 of property every five minutes, and 125 eres of buildings every hour.

The authorities of Portland, Oregon, have passed a law requiring all bicyclers to dismount when within 133 feet of anyone driving or riding a horse.

A five cent stamp will send a letter to the depths of central Africa. During its journey it is carried on the back of a mail runner for about 250 miles.

The Chicago Society for the Prevention of Smoke recently brought suits against factories, foundries, railroads and tug-boats, all of whom were fined.

Salton Lake, which so suddenly appeared a few months ago in the Colorado Desert, has entirely disappeared, and its bed is now covered with luxuriant verdure. In the Sub-Treasury of New York City there is deposit over \$3,000,000 representing outstand money orders which are overdue and may never presented.

money orders which are overdue and may never be presented.

A fearful snowstorm in Colorado the second week in October resulted in great damage. Many lives were lost, and three hundred cattle froze to death between Colorado Springs and Limon.

A large herd of Siberian reindeer has been transported to Alaska by the U. S. Government. This was step turnishes the natives with a new source of food, clothing and transportation.

An official in the Chicago post-office has noticed 137 different spellings of the name of that city on letters passing through his hands. Among them are Zizzazo, Hipaho, Sheehaco, Chachigo and Jaggago.

A new kind of glass for skylights, which will not fall and do damage when broken, is formed by inserting by a new process a kind of wire netting into the glass itself, when in a soft and plastic condition. The boundary line between Illinois and Iowa is the Mississippi river. The Supreme Court is about to decide whether the middle of the river is the middle of the navigable channel or the middle of the riverbed.

A New York man made a bet with a man that he dared to commit suicide, and then to show his daring imped into North River. He was fighting mad when pulled out and brought to shore by the captain of a tow-boat.

James Brooks, a 12 year old boy, has just been re-lieved of several inches of superfluous tongue, the enlargement of which was ascribed to a fish bone. The operation was performed at the Citizen's Hos-pital, Washington.

A Harvard college professor has found quartz, iron and black as well as white diamonds in a meteor which fell in Arizona. Small quantities of gold and silver have been found in solution in common sea water, by a foreign scientist.

Corbett, the puglist, says that there have been more men badly hurt this year in foot-ball than have been injured by prize-fighting for the last ten years, and that foot-ball is patronized by society people simply because it is played by college students.

Two men made a wager that they would go by water from Rockaway Beach, near New York City, to Boston, Mass., in a dry goods box seven feet long, three feet wide and thirteen inches deep, within forty days. They made the trip in thirty-eight, and won \$500.

won 3000. Chicago University is to have the largest and most powerful telescope in the world. The object glass, which will be made in Cambridgeport, Mass., will be forty-five inches in diameter. The telescope is gift of Charles T. Yerkes and will cost half a million of dollars.

of dollars.

The New York Central railroad has an engine which can run at the rate of 72 miles an hour. It is the largest passenger engine in the world. The tender is fitted with a water scoop, enabling it to take up water from troughs without stopping. Diameter of driving wheels, a little over 7 feet.

A gardener in Connecticut was frightfully stung by hornets, and dropped apparently dead. Physicians worked over him for two hours and finally gave him up. An hour later he revived and finally recovered consciousness. He had been stung in a nerve in the wrist which has a direct influence upon the heart.

The present custom of selling light beer at the

The present custom of selling light beer at the army posts, under Government direction, keeps the men away from low whisky shops in the neighborhood of the garrison, where unlimited quantities of vile and fiery liquor could be indulged in. The army officers state that it is a vast improvement and an advance in the cause of temperance.

A Pennsylvania coal mine caught fire a month ago. At the bottom of the mine were forty-four mules. When it was again possible to enter the mine it was found that sixteen of the mules were alive. They had broken their halters and had gnawed their feed boxes and the timber props for food. They had also found a little loose hay and had eaten the stuffing in the collars. the collars.

A scientist declares that the influence of the climate will soon mould the native Americans into many characteristics resembling the Indians. We shall in time be tall, strong, straight haired, erect, with very little superfluous flesh. This will happen as soon as the population grows so large that the stream of immigration fails to affect it. Dark brown hair will prevail.

The first of January next the post-office department expect to place on sale the Columbian postage stamps. These will be of all the denominations now in use. They will be the same height, but twice the length of the present ones and will contain various scenes commemorating the Discovery of America. It is believed that these stamps will stimulate interest in the exposition, both at home and abroad.

A farmer in California, who had a traction engine, had 30,000 sacks of grain to take to the railroad for shipment to a town 17 miles away. Instead of hauling them to the railroad station and paying freight, he hitched 9 wagons to his engine, loaded up in the field and hauled it over the roads to town. Expenses, time of three men and the coal used. Round trip, five hours.

The great detective Byrnes, now at the head of the New York police, believes in an "ounce of prevention." His plan is to arrest and lock up noted sneak thieves, pickpockets and burglars, on the eve of any event, releasing them as soon as it is over. During the recent Columbus Celebration in New York City

he made a big haul of professional thieves and many more were seen leaving town to escape several days' detention in jail.

The new post-office order says that whenever two-thirds of the householders along any free delivery route signify their desire to have the "double service" it will be established. This is a plan whereby the delivery men shall at the same time collect the mail along their routes, by means of boxes of a peculiar pattern. When there is any mail in the box, a white disk is exposed to view. The scheme is said to save both time and trouble.

The biggest elephant in the Chicago Zoological collection took a stroll into the streets the other day. An Italian fruit vender ran out and tried to stop her. He fell down and the elephant trotted right over him, carefully avoiding stepping on him. Most of the route was on board sidewalks which she smashed through at every step and seemed to enjoy immensely. She was recaptured when badly out of wind, and lay down to rest several times on the way back.

A sharper got up a novel dodge in New York City

mensely. She was recaptured when badly out of wind, and lay down to rest several times on the way back.

A sharper got up a novel dodge in New York City during the recent Columbus Celebration. Just at nightfall he entered the saloons and stores along a crowded street, carrying a big wrench, and announced that he was an inspector and was going to turn the gas off. The proprietors, terrified at the idea of losing their custom for one evening, invariably bribed him until he finally would agree to "go and see the boss" and see if he couldn't secure an extension of time for the storekeepers. He victimized a number, but finally was locked up.

The step which every one is directly interested in is the meeting "For Better Highways" held in Chicago last month. The following plan is recommended. The National League for Good Roads is to be organized primarily in the separate school districts of each State, and its membership shall be open to all citizens. There shall be no initiation feor membership fee, but each member shall pay fifty cents per year toward a club subscription to a publication which will be the organ of the League and contain all topics of interest bearing upon the subject. The object of the organization is to awaken general interest in the condition of roads, determine the best methods of construction and repair, and secure the necessary legislation, state and national, to effect an improvement.

STICK A PIN IN HERE.

There is a decided neat, novel and handy little book filled with hundreds of different size pins, black and white, for Ladies Toilet or Gents pocket companion, just what every one needs, and as Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine, want every one to see their new Catalogue, they will send this valuable article free to all who send 4c. for mailing.

THE TOBACCO HABIT.

THE TOBACCO HABIT.

Although a great many persons enjoy life and fat up when victims of the tobacco habit, there are millions who would give all the worlds good they have in stock if they could but rid themselves of this cures of hawking, spitting and smoking. M. N. Tamer writes that he was for thirty years a slave to tobacco and it simply ruined his health. John Slinn a prominent business man in Fall River, Mass., said his Heart got into the state that physicians called Tobacco Heart and the continual use of tobacco for many years so upset his general health also that he could not eat, sleep or work. Yet both of these and thousands of others found immediate relief and a permanent cure by simply taking one tablet of Oxien after each meal. As it will not cost our readers anything to try this wonderful but harmless remedy we advise all to send at once to The Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine, and get free samples which they now send to all troubled in this manner. We have positive proof of the great good it is doing.

THE STORY OF A CLEVER CHAP.

IN SIX CHAPTERS.



Copyrighted, 1892. CHAP. I. "BILLY."

Billy Chapman was just sixteen, and his friends had secretly planned to give him a surprise party. Somehow Billy got wind of it and thought he'd surprise them. So he wrote to Morse & Co.—all on the quiet.

CHAP. II. THE "STRANGER."

On the appointed evening his friends trooped into the parlor, but Billy was missing. A handsome young stranger came to greet them and said that one of Billy's relatives would be down directly.



92

CHAP. III. BILLY'S "UNCLE."

And presently a gentleman who announced himself as Billy's un-cle appeared and told them that William had met with an acci-dent that afternoon in "trying to shovel wind off the roof," and that the family doctor would ex-plain all about it.

CHAP. IV. THE "DOCTOR."

Next, the doctor came and said Next, the doctor came and said it was a compound fracture of the physiognomy, but that Billy had recovered sufficiently to enable him to smile, and that he would shortly be down. In the meantime he would send in Mr. Beard, a friend of Billy's.



7= M

CHAP. V. THE "HONORABLE!

The Honorable Mr. Beard had no sooner entered than he thought the joke had gone far enough, and suddenly snatching a set of lifelike whiskers from his face, Billy himself made a polite bow and said, "Whose surprise party is this?"

The above shows what fun boys can have by investing a few cents in our wonderful false mustaches, beards, goatees, and whiskers. The pictures here shown are of one and the same person—Billy Chapman—and the marvellous changes were effected in a few seconds by means of these "gay deceivers." For Private Theatricals, Amateur Minstrel Shows, Charades, Tableaux, Parlor Entertainments, etc. they are simply immense. Nothing will so completely change one's appearance. A boy can be instantly transformed into a man so that even his sweetheart and parents fall to recognize him. They are made of the best material—genuine hair, nicely crimped—giving them a wavy and natural appearance. Instantly adjusted or removed from the face, Mustaches and goatees—gray, red. light, medium, or dark brown, and black, price 7 cents each, four for 25 cents, or 60 cents per dozen. Beards and Whiskers—white, gray, red. light, medium, or dark brown, and black. Price, Pull Beard, 60 cents; Whiskers with Mustache, 60 cents; four of either for \$2.00. Any of above goods mailed, postpaid, on receipt of price. In ordering, send small lock of hair or state color desired. Address,





LEGANT SILK EMBOSED PLUSH ALBUMS, leaves highly decorated with Daises, Ferns, Golden Rod, etc., etc. Extension Silvered Clasp, Gilt Edge, Spring back and the most stylish, best gotten up LARGE PHOTO ALBUM ever imported into America, being a foot long, over nine inches wide and more than three inches thick, coming in finest colors, most tastily arranged leaves for cabinet and photo size pictures you ever saw. They will last for years, and you can now get one of these superty premiums FREE for a Club of 6 yearly subscribers to Compost, at 25c. each We do not sell them but if you have not time to obtain all the subscriptions, you can subscribe for some of your friends and sell the Album for several dollars as it is such as was sold for \$5.00 at one time. Address,
PUBLISHERS OF COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

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\$3600 IN PRIZES

Who Can Guess What This Word Is?

AIRY, SHUN, DICK.

The above words, when transposed and read correctly make the name of a very valuable book. What is it? For the first correct answers, we will give the following CASH voucher premiums:

1st, \$500, 2d, \$300, 3d, \$206,

4th, \$100, next 60 \$25 each.

In addition to the above, we shall give away choice House or Business Lots, valued from \$10 to \$50 each. With your answer send 20 cents, in silver or stamps, for a box of The Bellevue Liver Pellets.

Remember you pay nothing for the prizes, as they are absolutely given away to introduce and advertise our never failing remedy for Constipation, Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Sick Headache, Liver Troubles These Pills are purely vegetable, and are an invaluable assistant to the digestive organs. Long after the first cathartic effect, a mild laxative action continues, making their use particularly advantageous. They are recommended by leading physiciane throughout the country, as a positive cure for Sick Headache. We shall promptly give all the prizes offered here. Write your name and address plainly, and address, Belllevue Medicine Company, and address, Belllevue Medicine Company, above Prizes are given as advertised.

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ART in meedlework is on the advance. We know
the ladies delight
in odd pieces of
silk and satin,—
"CRASY QUILT"
making is VERY
FOPULAR. We
are sure we have a
bargain that all ladies will now delight in. Bright,
handsome, oddshaped, and pretty
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experiments of many BIOH
FACTORIES; for
years have been
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GOODS. We have
thousands of pieces
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hand which we are
going to give you
a big trade on.
People at a distance
have hard times
getting the right
assortment to put
assortment to put
for the property of the pro

assortment to put into softa-pillows, quilts, etc., and we can help you out now. We are going to dispose of this immense lot EIGHT OFF. Our packages contain from 99 to 168 pieces of the best quality assorted goods, and we want to get a lot introduced into every home; then you can order as you like for your friends, and MAKE MONEY doing our work and helping yourself also. Remember these ing our work and helping yourself also. Remember these ports of fancy, art, and in the contained the source of the contained the co

BETTER YET. To all answering this ad. before 30 days we will also send 6 pieces of elegant PLUSH FREE. They come in Red, Blue, Green, Old Gold, etc.

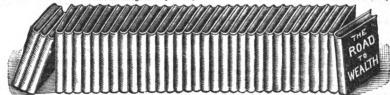
AND OUTFIT COMPLETE A GENUINE PHOTO-TAKING MACHINE, NOT A TOY, But a Perfect Picture Producer, to be set up and

In the line of our hundreds of low priced and reliable specialties, we now manufacture this Complete Photographing Outfit, which will be our leader during the coming season. This outfit consists of everything shown in cut and mentioned below; A strong and perfectly made Camera, which will take a picture 21-2 inches square, complete with adjustable holder for Plate and Perfect Lens with cap; A package of the renowned "Harvard Dry Plates; 2 Japanned Tin Developing Trays; 1 Printing Frame; 1 package Blue Process Paper; 1 sheet Ruby Paper; 1 package Photo Mounts; Hyposulphite Soda; Developing Chemicals; complete and explicit instructions, enabling anyone to take any class of pictures with this Outfit. Now please remember that you are not buying a Camera only but a complete and explicit instructions, enabling anyone to take any class of pictures. You can take Landscapes, Portraits, Buildings, in fact anyour contribution of the process of the



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OUR LEISURE HOUR LIBRAY CONTAINS 55 BOOKS AS FOLLOWS:

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Upon receipt of ONE DOLLAR, bill, postage stamps, postal note, post office money order, bank draft, express money order or registered letter FOIE ONE COUPLETE SNT OF 35 VOLUMES of our Leisure Hour Library as described above, we will send you promptly by mail, postald, AS A FIESENT, absolutely free, the Handsome Premium, Engraved Hunting Case, that WE ILLUSTIATE HISTER. Remember the books, 35 in number, will be sent you for only not \$1.00 and delivered free of all expense. We cannot send C. O. D., the amount is too small. Write at once, Any hard relived the property of the control of t





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time in shoving the plate at him.

Just as the villain lowered his hand to drop the gold in the plate, by a dexterous and imperceptible tip the coin flew up his sleeve. He immediately looked down to the floor and commenced poking around, and the near-sighted collection-taker, unwilling to lose so handsome a donation, quite naturally assisted in the search which the scamp instituted. All the people in the pew also got up and seuffled about with their feet, but to no result. The pinns man who hustles for the heathen was

The pious man who hustles for the heathen was just about to proceed on his regular rounds when he noticed that the cold cash contributor again thrust his hand into his pocket and produced another coin, at the same time motioning for him to return, which he promptly did, when the scandalous deception was repeated.

By this time the attention of the entire congregation was on this little pew performance, and as eburch broke up it was whispered about that somebody had recognized the stranger as the fire-eater of Boston Dime Museum. The fact that the citizens of Cohasset are a peaceful and God-fearing community—and because they couldn't find the manprevented the enaction of a dark, deep, crimsonlived tragedy.



CORRESPOND E N T who signs herself Clarissa wants us to tell her what she ought to get for poetry like the following:

TO LEANDER.

Upon this troubled sphere there creeps An angel-girl whose heartlet leaps At mention of thy name.

But from her eyes, those lovely keeps of tears, that flow whene'er she weeps, A liquid sorrow daily peeps And nightly just the same.

The absence of your presence steeps Her soul in wee. She seldom sleeps Her soul in wee. She seldom sleeps But great big tears in chunks and heaps She weeps—s we et Birdie weeps.

The reward for such productions, Clarissa, differs according to sex, age and previous conduct of the perpetrator. And, to be perfectly frank with you, we should say that, if you were a man, you ought to get six months for the above, provided it was your first offense. As a rule, where such poems are written on the best quality of paper, Comport pays two cents a pound, delivered free on board in Augusta—not for publication but as an evidence of good faith and as a sire promoter.



HERE'S noaccounting for tastes. Here we have millions of people eating political crow just now, most of whom would no doubt shrink from a sniff of roast 'Possum. Perhaps it's just as well that this is so, for there wouldn't be 'Possums enough to go 'round if everybody hankered after this dainty dish, particularly since the new way of gathering the playful midnight prowler was discovered by a sable sonny of the sunny south. This enterprising pickaninny stole forth from the nar-

sunny south.

This enterprising pickaninny stole forth from the parrental cabin, down in Virginia, one frosty night last December in search of a Christmas dinner. He had on an application of the control of the contro

in Virginia, one frosty night last December in search of a Christmas dinner. He had on an ancient overcoat, nine sizes too numerous for him, into the pockets of which his arms were thrust to the elbows. His battered cap was strapped tightly to his wooly head with a big knit tippet, which after passing round his neck several times descended to his waist, to which it secured the flapping ulcerated overcoat. Was he heading for neighboring henroosts? History tells us that he was not, but that he proceeded to the Potomac persimmon patch, where he spled a big fat Possum, who immediately scrambled up a tree. Young Africa was about to shin up and gather him in, when he discovered another Possum a little further on, also making up a tree. At this instant the discovery which has revolutionized Possum picking from persimmon trees flashed across the pickaninny. He knew that as long as he stood under the tree the Possum wouldn't come down, but he couldn't stand under two trees and go for help, all at the same time. So he pulled off the overcoat, fastened it by the arms around one tree, and tied his jacket round the other, with the aid of the long comforter; when suddenly up bounced two more Possuns into another tree. Little Zeke had only two more garments to choose from, but though the night was cold, his trousers were soon artistically tied by the legs around the third tree. And a moment later his fluttering shirt-tails scaled the snake-fence, and like a flash light swooped down the road towards the cabin.

When old Uncle Pete and his wife thrust out their

when old Uncle Pete and his wife thrust out their heads to see what the tremendous racket was about, visions of White Caps, Klu-Klux Klans and Regulators flashed through their heads as they beheld their chattering offspring hopping frantically about on the doorstep, but a few minutes later, old Black Joe himself sallied forth, accompanied by 'llttle Zeke, in more assorted raiment than before; and presently they returned, radiant with delight, and loaded with

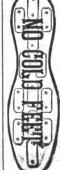


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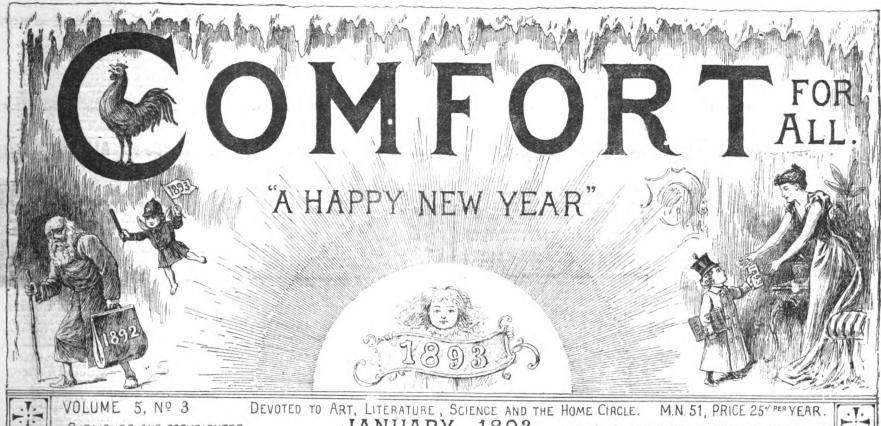
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*THE NUTSHELL STORY CLUB *

Under this head are published every month the best sriginal short stories received under the following prize offer and the writers of which have complied with the conditions here named.

Only regular subscribers of Comport may compete for the prizes. All contributions must bear the writer's full name and address; must be written on one side of the paper only and be mailed in a sealed envelope, duty stamped, to EDITOR NUTSHELL STORY CLUB, care of COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE. All stories must be strictly or i: m' I and contributors may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace; of city or country life, or of experiences on land or seabut an story must contain more than 1200 or less than 800 words. No manuscript will be returned unless an addressed and stamped envelope is enclosed.

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THAT NIGHT.

BY MRS. W. LESLIE COLLINS.

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BOUTone hundred years ago there lived in Franklin County, Ken-tucky, a well to do farmer named Bowen. His farm extended into the adjoining county of Anderson. At that time civilization had not driven out all of the primitive den-

izens of the forests, and wolves, catamounts, and panthers added the terrors of their presence to the density of the wood, and occasionally, impelled by hunger, they approached the scattered habitations of men to seize upon, and devour, any unprotected live stock, even if it was in the dooryard of its sturdy owner who dared not venture out alone to the rescue; and the watch dogs would bark vociferously at a safe distance from the fierce marauder, or would fly with drooping tails and frightened yelps to a convenient hiding place. Many a belated hunter has quickened his footsteps as he felt his long hair almost rise from his neck on hearing the awful screams of a panther pierce the darkness, or the far off howls of wolves that were perhaps on his trail. Often the soft patter of stealthy footfalls greeted his cars, and often gleaming eyes stared at him from leafy

hiding places. Often he was called upon to combat the owner of the fiery eyes, and not alvays was the hunter the victor.

But Farmer Bowen never suffered from worse than a semi-occasional nocturnal visit from a hungry catamount to his pig pen, or hen roost. Mr. Bowen and his excellent wife, with their large family of bright young children and well negroes, lived an industrious and happy life; but one day there happened an event that threatened to cloud their lives with sorrow. Their beautiful little daughter, Mary Ann, then six years of age, was the pride of their hearts and the light of their eyes. One afternoon Mr. Bowen sent one of his colored men into the adjacent wood to fell trees, and after a while, unknown to any one, little Mary Ann tied her little sunbonnet over her fair curls, and accompanied by her pet lamb, followed the man into the wood "to gather flow-" as she afterwards said, and fully expecting to find the colored man and return home with him; but she did not find him, and in her search wandered farther and farther into the forest until she became hopelessly lost. The shades of eve were falling when Mrs. Bowen missed her little daughter, and alarmed the household. Every nook and corner of the home-place underwent an unsuccessful search; then the neighborhood was aroused, and the half-frantic mother gathered her remaining children about her and wept and prayed the long night through, while men and boys, with torches and dogs, scoured the surrounding forest. They found a few bunches of withered wild flowers, and a tuft of soft white wool on a thorn bush; but it was dawn before they found the little child who was half sitting, half reasleep with her little sunbonnet drawn over her tear-stained face, and the bloody head of her pet lamb clasped tightly in her chubby arms. The overloved father clasped his child to his breast, and strong men wept tears of horror and sympathy when the child told the story of the bloody lamb's head, and of the awful danger of which she was entirely unconscious. She told them of how she was met in the dark ness-which was dimly illumined by the straggling light of the moon-by several "funny looking dogs" who sprang upon her poor little lamb and almost tore it to pieces before her eyes. Then "a big spotted cat" came and drove the "dogs" away. In the struggle the lamb's head was torn entirely off, and the "big spotted cat" disappeared with the body of the lamb. Then the weeping child took the bloody head of her unfortunate pet and wandered on and on until weariness overcame her and she sank to rest in the place where she was found Amid the weird night sounds of the untracked forest, with the hooting of the owl in the tree above for a lullaby, the poor tired child soon fell asleep to awaken in the strong arms of her devoted father. Investigation proved the

"funny looking dogs" to have been wolves, and the "big spotted cat" an American panther of the largest size.

Thus did God hold the child "in the hollow of His hand" and no evil thing touched her. Mary Ann Bowen lived to tell her numerous children and many of her grandchildren the story of that night. There are many persons now living in Franklin and Anderson counties, Kentucky, whose immediate ancestors joined in that memorable search. Mary Ann Bowen lived to be a widow for the second time, and dying at a good old age-about thirty years ago -left many descendants, one of whom is the husband of the present writer.

The Student Who Surprised Us.

BY JNO. WEYMOUTH.

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SON COLLEGE had reopened. All of the boys were back from their vacation with bright hearts and merry voices, looking as though they were going to study

harder than ever, though boys always look that way at the opening of school.

Every train brought in scores of new boys, some bright-looking fellows who seemed at once to be at home, and others who looked the very picture of unhappiness and homesick ness.

It was at Mason, and is at all schools a custom to pick out one or two of the new boys who were green-looking, and making them the targets for all of their goodnatured jokes for

a week or two; and among the boys that alighted from the train on the second day there was one that was singled out at once as the particular object of this year's merriment. He was the best subject that I had yet seen; wearing a large, broad-brimmed slouch hat, pants that were called by the boys "half-masters," and a rusty Prince Albert coat that came to his knees. Out of his pocket protruded an old corn-cob pipe, and in his hand he carried an ungainly looking package from which hung a shirt sleeve and a sock leg.

The moment the boys spied him they pounced good-naturedly upon him: several went up and told him that they were a committee to escort him to the college

He took the invitation courteously and followed the committee. Before he reached the college he had such signs on him as "A New Freak for the Museum," "Captured from the Jungles of Africa," and many other ludicrous He was shown to his quarters, and no one

bothered him again before supper. After that meal was over, a crowd started over to his abode to have a little fun. They went in and he invited them to take seats. They all did, except a tall fellow who was to act as spokes-When every one was seated the fellow who

was standing up began severely: "Where are vou from?"

"I don't know, sir," was the meek answer "What is your name?" with a sly wink at his comrades

"I haven't any, sir, its's wore out," he inno-

cently answered. A titter ran around the room, and the smart student realized that he was being made a laughing-stock for the crowd. This angered him a little and he said fiercely:

"Do you know who I am?"

"No sir," returned the victim.

"I've a mind to strike you," yelled Kain, the pokesman.

"Please don't, I might break," calmly said the new man.

The whole room was in a roar of laughter, and Kain was terribly angry. He knew not what to do; with his face livid with rage, he sprang at the new man, but on the way there, he met the new man's fist, and in consequence measured his length upon the floor. Rising up Kain said: "Boys, let's strap him,

he's most too tart for this place."

Now the boys in their hearts sympathized and agreed with the new man, but, as boys will always do, they let their desire to tyrannize get the best of their good nature and consented to strap him.

Kain was allowed to do the hitting, and he did it unmercifully too, though our new friend smiled and joked all through it.

When the punishers finished they sneaked to their rooms knowing that it would be certain expulsion if the faculty found it out, because only the year, before, three men had been "shipped" for hazing.

The boys all retired, laughing the matter

over among themselves and thinking lightly of

In the morning at breakfast nothing was een of the witty stranger, but the boys who did the strapping laughingly said to themselves that he was afraid to face the boys after last night's work.

Finally the bell rang for prayers, and the boys filed slowly over in patches of three and four. There was something unusual going on at chapel this morning, everybody was in a roar of laughter, and as Kain and his party neared the door they hurried in, but there was no laughter for them, for up on the rostrum sat the victim of their night's fun. They tried to laugh, but it turned into a sickening grin which made them the object of all eyes.

They huddled together on a bench and con-What was he doing up there; surely he hadn't told all; if so, they were in a "bad boat," or maybe he didn't know any better and had taken one of the arm chairs on the platform through ignorance; but at any rate things looked dark for them.

When the bell stopped ringing and all of the boys were in, the President arose and said: "Young gentlemen, allow me to introduce to you Mr. Radford, who has been elected to fill your chair of English literature, I trust you will all make your acquaintant shortly."

The boys did not know whether to laugh, shout, cheer or keep silent, except a few who knew very well what to do; and if their bodies could have dwindled in proportion to their spirits, they could have all been crowded into a quart cup.

Professor Radford arose and said: "Young gentlemen, I am glad to be among you and one of you, and hope to become acquainted with you all, especially with the young gentlemen who gave me such a warm reception last even (We're in for it now," said Kain.) ing.'

"I will meet my classes at eleven o'clock for organization." He bowed without a trace of gawkiness and sat down.

The President said: "Before you go I should like to ask Mr. Kain, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Egbert, Mr. Smith, Mr. Willett and Mr. Rayment to see me in my office after prayers."

"I am glad that I haven't unpacked my trunk," said Egbert. "We shall have to take the next train home."

Of course, everybody wondered what could be wanted with the boys mentioned, and as a result the hall in front of the office was packed with curious seekers after some knowledge of the affair.

The President only gave the miscreants a talk, and took their word for their good behavior the balance of the session.

The boys tried to keep the affair a secret, but it would leak out, and they were made targets for all kinds of ridicule.

At his eleven o'clock lecture Prof. Radford handed a bundle to Kain's room-mate to be carried to him, and when Kain opened it he found the old clothes that the "Greenhorn" had arrived in with the small but prominent label "A souvenir of last night."

Kain tossed the packet carelessly on the bed and smiled, but his room-mate, Mart Hayes, who noticed more closely than Kain, surprised him by saying, "I don't wonder that he stood that strapping, look at the lining in those pants and on the back of the coat." And Kain didn't wonder either, when he saw a thick padding of cotton which evidently shielded the professor from all harm.

Kain went over and apologized to the new professor, who received it smilingly, and begged him not to worry himself about it.

Joe Dawson said: "I am glad we got off, but

it was a sneaky way to find out who did the hazing."

"FRECK."

BY MINNIE THOMAS BOYCE.

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A L L O Freck! Been a-rubbin' y'ur face in the flo'r barl aint y'ur?"

"Shut y'ur mouth," was the unladylike reply.

The first speaker was a mischievous looking boy about twelve years of age; he carried a couple of dilapidated looking school books in one hand and was aiming a half rotten apple-core with the

other at the person he had just addressed.

The girl who had made the unladylike reply was some two years his senior. Her dress was of some cheap woolen stuff patched in many places, but clean and tidy looking. An old faded shawl was tied under her chin, but served as a poor protection against the cold north winds.

Her features were not bad; the eyes were large, dark and thoughtful, her hair a shade darker was soft and luxuriant. She was neither tall or ungraceful as are most girls of fourteen who gain their height too rapidly, nevertheless Elva Glyn would never be called pretty, nor even good looking, for her poor little face was literally covered with pockmarks and freckles from forehead to chin.

Old "Grandmother Hurdle" had taken her out of old "Grandmother Hurdle" had taken her out of the orphan's home at Everton to do chores and run errands for her some five years before the opening of this story, and the child proving remarkably kind and useful to the rheumatic old lady had remained at Miners Gap ever since.

She attended school three months out of every winter and was brighter than the majority of the children who came to the little log school house at the "cross-roads."

ter and was brighter than the majority of the children who came to the little log school house at the "cross-roads."

At first she had been quite a gay little thing and did not mind her disfigured face in the least, but by and by the small cracked mirror "Grannie" Hurdle always kept hanging above the comb-case in the kitchen told Elva a story she had better left unearned. It told her she was not fair and pretty like Saliie Woods, that her skin was like leather by the side of Nellie Clayton's.

"I'm the ugliest little wretch in the world," she said to herself one morning when her skin looked a little more leathery than usual. "An' I wish I'd never a bin borned." The little mirror was not called into service much after that but many and bitter were the tears the poor girl shed at the frequent jests of her companions.

As is usually the case when her school-mates found she was sensitive about her disfigured face they became more and more annoying and finally gave her the nick-name of "Freek."

The morning on which my story opens, thinking to improve her complexion somewhat, Elva had cautionally gone to "Grannie's" box of starch and vigorously rubbed some of it over her rough freekled face. Without waiting to even glance in the little cracked mirror she hurried off to school.

And this was the result, being asked by the very first one she met if her face had not been dipped in flour.

"Why what's the matter, 'Freek'?" went on the first speaker tauntingly giving one of her long plaits a pull. "Seems to me your temper needs a little greasin."

"Leave my hair alone," almost screamed the girl angrily. "I haint agoin' to be ta'nted by you'ens any longer. I'm iest as good as Sallie Ewing if her

greasin.'"

"Leave my hair alone," almost screamed the girl angrily. "I haint agoin' to be tainted by you'ens any longer. I'm jest as good as Salile Ewing if her face haint marked, an' if you don't quit a-makin' fun o' me, Fred Banner, you'll wish you had some o' these days."

these days."

Picking up a stone she held it threateningly looking at the boy with flashing eyes.

"Whew! haint she a little fury though," said he jeeringly, getting out of reach of the rock however.

"What's the matter, Elvay" asked a gentle voice and a pretty little girl with a face too old for her body reached the angry girl's side.

The newcomer had been unable to walk without

The newcomer had been unable to walk without the aid of a crutch almost from babyhood, but she had borne her affliction with a patience rarely met with in older persons

the aid of a crutch almost from babyhood, but she had borne her affliction with a patience rarely met with in older persons.

"O Lettie!" exclaimed Elva, repentedly throwing down the rock with rather a guilty air. "I lowed to keep my word, honest I did, but when that Fred Banner gets to ta'ntin' me seems like I jist can't hold in a minute. I can't never be like you anyway an' what's the use a' tryin'?" despairingly.

"You needn't be like me," returned the cripple girl gently, 'but they'd soon quit botherin' you if you'd jist go an' not pertend like you heard 'em. They used to call me 'Crip,'" with a sensitive flush, 'but I jist never let on as if I knowed nothin' about it an' purty soon they all quit a-doin' it."

"But I can't do that o' way," was Elva's moody response. "It hurts so in here," putting her marked hand over her heart, while a sob came in her throat.

"I know it don't do any good to git mad but I jist feel sometimes like I want to fight the whole pile of em an' I will some o' these days," with a determined toss of her head.

"But that'd be worse'n ever," returned her motherly little companion. "The teacher might turn you out o' school; then how'd yur Grandma feel? they'd ali call you names worse'n ever then."

"Well, what'd you do to keep from flyin' at 'em when they ta'nted you?" asked Elva curiously.

"I prayed," answered the cripple girl solemnly. "I prayed," answered the cripple girl solemnly. "I prayed," answered the cripple girl solemnly."

when they ta'nted you?" asked filva curiously.
"I prayed," answered the cripple girl solemnly. "I prayed fur God to help me to bear it. He knows. That's the way folks made fun o' Him onet; jist jeered at Him an' throwed sticks an' things in His face an' He didn't say nothin' to 'em at all, only jist looked sorry like an' didn't throw no sticks back an' now I guess them folks 'at done it's awful sorry an' wish they hadn't. He knows all bout me an' bout

you the lar and Brown told me so onet an' I've been a-praym' ever since. It helps me a heap," with a bright look at her companion.

"How'd you know it's Him's a helpin' yon?" asked Elva incredulously. "Grannie prays a good deal but I can't make much out o' her prayin' she groans an' takes on at sich a rate."

"You must pray fur yourself," said Lettie earnestly, "then you'll know."

They reached the school-house door just then and farther confidence between them came to an end."

The Sunday following the day on which I write would be Easter and the thoughtful teacher had presented each pupil with a gay little card as a souvenir in memory of that day.

When Elva reached her desk she found this, and a mysterious looking pink envelope prettily decorated and addressed to herself, beside it.

Before opening her small "mystery" she turned round to smile at Lettie feeling sure she had been the giver of this pleasant little surprise.

Her humiliation was great however when upon breaking the seal she found a card inside, a huge turkey egg drawn thereon covered with brown patches and grotesque features imprinted upon its surface by some cunning hand.

The teacher had left the room for a moment and a group of boys and girls stood near the door greatly enjoying poor Elva's discomfiture.

She gave one glance at the envelope's contents, then threw both at the laughing group near the door. Not being satisfied with this small act of vengeance she picked up her slate and flew atthe frightened boys and girls with the ferocity of a wild cat.

"You mean, hateful, stuck up things," she screamed as the slate came down mercilessly upon their uncovered heads.

One boy more daring than his fellows attempted to take it from her, but she doubled up her small fist and

One boy more daring than his fellows attempted to take it from her, but she doubled up her small fist and struck him square in the eye.

Just at this critical moment the teacher re-entered the room. She took Elva by the shoulder and asked kindly: "Now Elva, what's the matter?"

The girl quieted by the gentle tone and protecting touch upon her shoulder sobbed out her story, and Miss Brown in a few well-chosen words gave the pupils of Miners Gap school-house a lesson they did not soon forget.

Miss Brown in a few well-chosen words gave the pupils of Miners Gap school-house a lesson they did not soon forget.

She kept Elva after school that evening and when the room became empty took the poor marked, tear stained face between her hands and said winningly:
"Now little girl I am not going to punish you so do not look so frightened. But I just want to tell you a little story of patience and forbearance."

Then she told Elva the same sweet story—only in a more connected way—that Lettle had told her before and our little heroine started for "Grannie" Hurdle's humble roof in a manner comforted.

Miss Brown's last words had been: "Elva, try in every way you can to make the scholars love you. Do not go alone so much. Take an interest in their little pleasures and sorrows; do some kindly act whenever you can to help some boy or girl along; then you will forget all about yourself and think more of others. They will not notice your marked face when they learn to like and respect you. Faces we love are always beautiful to us." These last words had a great effect on Elva. She kept repeating them over to herself:

"Faces we love are always beautiful to us."

All that week the memory of them kept ringing in her heart and one evening when all the other girls refused to carry Fred Banner's book while he played snow-ball on the way home, Elva remembering Miss Brown's words about helping others called pleasantly: "I'll carry 'em fur you Fred if you want me to."

Brown's words about helping others called pleasantly: "I'll carry 'em fur you Fred if you want me to."

The surprised boy looked up half pleased, half ashamed, and gave them to her without a word.

He told some of the boys when he returned to them that "Elva Glyn wasn't sich a bad un after all, 'purty is as purty does,' you know."

After that little episode he was Elva's staunch ally and friend, which fact helped her much for Fred had hitherto been her chief tormentor.

The boys soon learned that whenever their kites did not fly just right, whenever their balls needed mending, whenever an extra marble was needed no one could help them out so deftly and with so little fuss as their once despised school-mate.

The girls also soon began to go to her with their little troubles and no other would help them work out a hard example so willingly as "Freek."

Miss Brown noticed the change and encouraged her young disciple greatly by her kindly smiles and womanly words of encouragement.

A decided change for the better had indeed taken place in Elva. To be sure the pock-marks and freckles would always be there, but the large eyes had lost their sullen dissatisfied look and the mouth was not drawn so pitifully down at the corners.

Lettie noticed the change also and asked one day in her quiet motherly way: "Haint you been a prayin', Elva?"

"Yes," was her friend's answer and with a burst of confidence: "O Lettie I'll jist never forgit you and

her quiet motherly way: "Haint you been a prayin', Elva?"

"Yes," was her friend's answer and with a burst of confidence: "O Lettle I'll jist never forgit you and Miss Brown as long as I live. I haint ever expectin' to be good like you an' her but I'm a tryin' an' Miss Brown says that's all a body can do. I wish I'd a bin bornded good like you," regretfully.

"I wasn't borned good," returned Lettic quickly while a flush crept over her little pale face. "I'm real mean lots o' times an' git cross 'cause I can't run an' play like other girls. Then you haint had no ma or help you like I have," with generous warmth.

"No," responded Elva sadly, "I haint had no ma or pa but 'Grannie's' been most as good an' when I git bigger I low to take keer of her same as if she's my very own 'Grannie'. So she wont be sorry she took mein."

Before Lettie could make any reply Fred Banner

me in."

Before Lettie could make any reply Fred Banner came running up to them screaming:

"The school-house's afire! the school-house's afire!"

afire!"

Elva commenced to run without waiting for farther particulars, while Lettle hurried after her as tast as her crutch would allow. When Elva reached the spot she found the roof of the little building in flames. "Where's Miss Brown?" she asked, not seeing her beloved teacher.

"She thought Nettie Blacke's little brother was left in and went to see," returned one of her companions.

"She thought Nettie Blacke's little brother was left in and went to see," returned one of her companions.

"When?" asked Elva fearfully.

"A minute ago," answered some boy, "an' if she don't come out purty soon she'll be a goner."

Without waiting to hear the latter part of his speech Elva rushed into the burning building while the frightened cries of her companions were warning her to stay out.

Half blinded by heat and smoke she found Miss Brown stretched lifeless between the farther wall and the door. Elva took her by the arms half lifting, half dragging her with a strength only borne of fright. She succeeded in getting almost out of the door with her insensible burden when one of the loosened beams fell and struck her cruelly on the head.

Fred Banner and some of the older boys rushed forward and dragging both Miss Brown and Elva away from the flaming mass placed them in safety on a grassy knoll some distance from the school-house.

Miss Brown recovered almost instantly under a deluge of cold water, suggested by the thoughtful Lettie.

The teacher immediately applied all the restora-ves in her power to revive her faithful little pre-

The teacher immediately applied all the restoratives in her power to revive her faithful little preserver but in vain.

Fred was dispatched to Miners Gap for aid when Farmer flit drove up with his big hay wagon and after listening to Miss Brown's tearful explanation of the accident, he lifted the injured girl carefully on the soft straw and in company with the sorrowful teacher and several scholars started to the village.

The best medical aid the "Gap" afforded was secured for the brave girl but her injuries proved beyond human skill.

Miss Brown was tireless in her attention. She and Lettle sat over the sick girl's bed day and night, but even under their gentle hands and loving care Elva grew rapidly worse.

grew rapidly worse.

She regained consciousness for a few moments one evening when Miss Brown sat by her side, and looking at her teacher with great solemn eyes attempted

ing at her teacher with great solemn eyes attempted to say something.

Miss Brown leaned over the couch till her head almost touched the little sufferer's.

"What is it dear?" she asked softly, an anxious look came over the wan face and the child asked gaspingly:

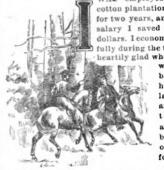
"Do-you-reckon-my-face'll-be-marked-up-

there?"
"No, no, my darling," was Miss Brown's quick reply while the hot tears dimmed her eyes. "You will be one of the fairest of God's children, I know."
A look of unutterable peace came over the dying girl's face, and holding one of her teacher's hands she

ROBBED.

BY G. E. BENNETT.

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WAS employed on a large cotton plantation in Arkansas for two years, and out of my salary I saved one hundred dollars. I economized wonderfully during the time, and was heartily glad when the money was safe in the

bank, for one hundred dollars was the amount I determined to accumulate before starting out in business for myself.

When I be came the proud possessor of this sum I embarked in the fur business. I would take extended trips into the back settlements, collect a lot of furs, return to the railroad and ship them to a dealer in New York As soon as I received returns from the shipment I was ready again for another trip.

One bright morning in November found me jogging along the trail, on my mustang pony, bound for Redlick settlement in Limestone valley, distant forty miles.

The surrounding scenery was grand. Far away the river wound its way between glittering sand bars. Across the river, in the smoky distance, the mountains reared their pine crested summits. Viewed through the haze of Indian summer the scene was picturescent.

through the naze of Anasa the picturesque.

The cool air was exhilarating. I was in excellent spirits, and I began to sing a rollicking song. Suddenly my song was rudely interrupted.

As I turned an abrupt curve in the trail I found myself confronted by two roughly dressed, evil looking men. One held a long barreled rifle and the other an ugly looking horse pistol pointed directly at my head.

myself confronted by two roughly dressed, evil looking men. One held a long barreled rifle and the other an ugly looking horse pistol pointed directly at my head.

"Halt thar, young man!" challenged the man on the right, a tall fellow with a ferocious mustache. I halted. I was aware that highway robbery was by no means a rare occurence in this sparsely settled region. I had prepared for just such occasions as this by purchasing a revolver, which I carried in an inside coat pocket, but the two rascals completely surprised me, and had me covered before I fairly realized the situation.

"Will ye please hand over thet thar little roll uv greenbacks ye hev about ye?" asked the short rogue, with a supercillious smile, as he cocked his pistol.

"Yes, gentlemen," I replied, "I haven't much money, but what little I've got you're welcome to."

"Come, come, now," said the tall man, "don't waste eny breath, young man. You've got a hundred cr so—seed ye draw it at th' bank! So shell 'er out!"

Very reluctantly I took out my pocket-book and handed over my "little roll."

The tall man selzed it, shoved it down into one of his pants pockets, and said:

"Now spur up, an'ride ahead as fast as ye kin, an' don't ye look behind ye. If ye do, like as not we'll take a notion t' shoot ye."

I needed no urging, and putting my pony on the gallop, I soon left the highwaymen a mile behind. When this distance intervened between us, I reined in my pony and burst into a loud, hearty laugh. I took off my hat, swung it around my head, and hallooed and laughed until my sides fairly ached.

Now, no doubt, the reader will think this a very strange and foolish proceeding for one who had only a short time before been robbed of a sum of money. Let me explain. Traveling, as I did, unfrequented and lonely roads, I had often pondered upon the probability of being robbed, and had concocted a scheme to outwit the highwaymen in case an attempt was made to rob me.

My father had given me a number of Confederate bills, which I had kept merely as relies. The

tion.

At dusk I reached a settler's cabin, where I spent the night. I related my adventure with the robbers to my host, explained how I had so completely fooled them, and he joined me in a jolly laugh when I ended.

Next morning as soon as breakfast was over I de-

At noon I halted, ate a cold lunch I had brought from the settler's cabin, and then resumed my jour-Dark, lowery clouds had obscured the sky, and presently a drizzling rain set in. I had just crossed a small creek and was entering a clump of willows when I heard the "spang" of a rife, and a bullet whistled by my head. Before I had time to recover from my astonishment I was dragged from my pony by strong arms, and I found myself face to face with the two men who had endeavored to rob me the day before!

by strong arim, and, the the day before!

My heart beat violently and I trembled like a reed. They had discovered the trick I had played on them, had headed me off, and now I expected no mercy at their hands.

"Oh, we've got ye!" hissed the tall man, giving me a savage shake. "You little onery pup, you! Thought ye was smart, didn't ye? But ye're not so daggoned sharp asy ethink ye are! Couldn't palm off yer ol' Confederate on us! No, siree; we're not them kind o' hair pins!"

They went through my pockets roughly, taking my hard earned money and my revolver.

"Thar now," said the tall scoundrel, "guess we've got what we want now! Ye kin keep thet thar ol' one eyed pony uv yourn, but the next time ye trys t' play a trick on me an' Bill, hyar, ye'll bite cold lead!

They turned and disappeared in the forest. Sadly I They turned and disappeared in the forest.

They turned and disappeared in the forest. Sadiy I mounted my pony, and turning his head toward home rode slowly off. I did not feel the least bit like laughing any just then. I had fallen several notches in my own estimation, and my thoughts were far from pleasant ones. All I now possessed in the world was my "o! one eyed pony."

I went to work on the plantation, saved some more money, but I did not resume the fur business.

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THE MYSTIC CASTLE

Correspondence in this department should be addressed to Oldcastle, Utica, N. Y. Correct name and address should accompany every communication even when a nom de plume is used. communication.

even when a nom de plume is used.

I am very sorry that the copy for "The Mystic Castle" was so delayed that it failed of publication in December Comfort.

Two letters of the alphabet were not to be found in the October batch of Mysteries, q nor z. It was intended to include "Prizes for Solutions" in the contest, which would have left q the only missing letter, but by a slight error of omission in the announcement, it was not. Either q or z was accepted as a correct solution. Lack of space forbids mentioning others than the prize winners. These are:

1. Minne A Polis. 2. Jannetta 8. Nally 3. Com-

than the prize winners. These are:

1. Minne A. Polis. 2. Jeanetta S. Nally. 3. Cowboy. 4. Locust.

Accepted contributions:—Sear, 9; Rokeby, 8; Cowboy, U. Telle, 7; Bourgeois, 4; Roy, Oedipus, Osceola, Maj, Nimbus, 2; Swamp Angel, Frantz, Lilla W. Sickler, Dylac, Calo, R. Ebus, Ypsie, So So and Frank Sebring one each.

The prizes for the best contributions in verse, relative to the Holidays, are awarded to Swamp Angel and Lilla W. Sickler respectively.

Solvers to September Mysteries:—W. E. Wiatt, Waldemar and Minne A. Polls, 12; Sear, 10; Tyro, 9; P. A. Stime, Cowboy and Ypsie, 9; Calo, 7; Swamp Angel, 6; Osceola, 4; Thinker, 3; So So, 2. Prize-Winners:—I. W. E. Wiatt. 2. Waldemar. 3. Minne A. Polis. Specials:—1. So So, 2. Tyro.

Solvers to October Mysteries:—Tyro, Eglantine, 9; Swamp Angel, Essay, Hen Net and Hi A. Watha, 7; Sear, So So, Ypsie, Cowboy and Lomax, 6: Thinker and Roy, 5; Minne A. Polis and Keystone, 4; Bourgeois and U. Telle, 3; Frank K. Sebring, R. Ebus, Locust and Bison, 2; "C. K. Renim," and Sherman B. Johnson, 2.

Prize-winners:—I. Tyro, 2. Eglantine, 3. Swamp Angel, Essay, 2. Sear.

SOLUTIONS TO SEPTEMBER MYSTERIES

SOLUTIONS TO SEPTEMBER MYSTERIES.

No. 335. 1. VACUNA. 2. AXONES. 3. COMBES.
4. UNABLE. 5. NEELES. 6. ASSESS.
No. 336. 1. VASSAL. 2. ACTIVE. 3. STORES. 4.
SIRENS. 5. AVENGE. 6. LESSEN.
No. 337. 1. TAMPOE. 2. ANIERS. 3. MILLIS.
5. PELAGE. 5. ORIGAN. 6. ESSENE.
No. 339. 1. BLEARS. 2. LINNET. 3. ENTICE.
4. ANIMAL. 6. RECALL. 6. STELLS.
No. 339. 1. SHAVER. 2. HUMANE. 3. AMANDA.
4. VANDAL. 6. ENDALL. 6. REALLY.
No. 340. 1. CERTES. 2. ENERVE. 3. REGION.
4. TRIALS. 5. EVOLVE. 6. SENSES.
No. 341. 1. ACORUS. 2. CANINE. 3. ONYCHA.
4. RICHER. 5. UNHELE. 6. SEARED.
NO. 342. 1. CYBELE. 2. YEOMEN. 2. BOREAS.
4. RICHER. 5. UNHELE. 6. SEARED.
NO. 343. 1. EMBRYO. 2. MORATS. 3. BRASTS.
4. RABURE. 5. YTTRIA. 6. OSSEAN.
NO. 344. 1. PACANES. 2. AZAROLE. 3. CANARIA.
4. ARABIST, 5. NORICH. 6. ELISION. 7.
SEATING.
NO. 345. 1. INTAGLIO. 2. NEATRESS. 3. TAMTAMES. 4. ATTIUDE. 5. GRATEFUL. 6. LEMUFUGE. 7. ISEDUCIT. 9. OSSELETS.

SOLUTIONS TO OCTOBER'S MYSTERIES.

No. 347. Tic-douloureux.
No. 348. Great talkers are little doers.
No. 349. L. E. 2. No. 3 Enclose. 4. Olives. 5.
Ovens. 6. Sender. 7. Essenes. 8. Re. 9. S.
No. 350. 1. L. 2. 1s. 3. Liberal. 4. Secede. 5.
Rebus. 6. Adults. 7. Lestris. 8. Si. 9. S.

Rebus, 6. Adults, 7,
No. 351. USE
ULSTER
UNBLEST
LUPINE
BRANT
SPHERE
SLAVERY
TIEROD
IENEMA
ENROBE
ESTRADE
REEDED
TYE

No. 352. Sop-his-tic-ate.
No. 353. Memorial Day.
No. 356. The Mystic
Castle.
No. 356. 1. D. 2. Dim.
3. Fraud. 4. Drilled. 5.
Dialectic. 6. Muleted. 7.
Deter. 8. Did. 9. E.

No 357. COINSTANTANEOUS
ONOMATO POEIAS
MISERICORDE
MINUTEMAN
OCTAVES
NAZES
PYE

TOA
TOA
HERIC
GESTURE
UNDECAGON
OCTAHEDRITE
HAIRSPLITTERS
TELANGIECTASIES

No. 346. Across. PORTER. 2. ALOOTA. 3. RETTES. 4. EATERS. 5. ETERNE. 6. TENSES. Down. 1. PAREET. 2. OLEATE. 3. ROTTEN. 4. TOTERS. 5. ETERNE. 6. RASSES.

MYSTERIES. No. 359. Numerical.

A young 9-14-15-12, Who the rapier keen, Of 8-5-1-6-4 and 3 Could ever drive with wit to the Two 11-7-13.

Two 11-7-13.

Would by us all a humorist
No doubt be justly named;
Yet Lincoln was once called
COMPLETE,
And grew forever famed.
New Castle, Ohio,
No. 360. Numerical.

No. 360. Numerical.

All men are sinners, so 'tis said,
None 4, 2, this world who is free from sin;
And when we think of this we may be led
To say, 'What a world this, to live in.'
But here we are, and here we'll have to stay,
Though many are not 3, 1, 7 to live, I'll own;
Yet we have a 3, 6, 5, 8 ruler, who night and day,
Guides us, and 'complete' mercy he has shown.
Ithnes, N. Y.,
So So.

(2) 1. In Remlap. 2. A Chinese measure of
clength (Supp.) 3. Any weight. 4. Huge (obs.) 5.
The spider-crab. 6. A smooth glossy surface. 7. A
tenet held by several persons. 8. Lieutenant (abbr.)
S. A letter.

(2) 1. A letter. 2. A small lake. 3. A grammar (obs.) 4. Those who carry away dirt and filth. 5. A plant of the genus adoxa. 6. Genera of plants. 7. Observers. 8. Ropes. 9. A river of Prussia. 10. Musical syllables. 11. A letter.

Bangor, Pa., T. Hinker.

Bangor, Pa.,

(2) 1. A girl's name. 2. Ten or twelve grains. 3.

A little wheel. 4. A kind of earth. 5. A medicine. 6.

Doting. 7. An open surface.

South Aeworth, N. H.,

Tyro.

(3) 1. A sturgeon. 2. A Burman measure. 3. Pertaining to old age. 4. To foretoken (obs.) 5. Dismay (rare.) 6. A musical composition. 7. A large bird.

Albany, N. Y.,

No. 376. A Riddle.

(Awarded First Prize.)

(Awarded First Prize.)

(Awarded First Prize.)
In the frowning castle were gathered a band
of the bravest and fairest in all the land;
There were noble knights and ladies grand,
on that glad Christmas tide.
Each one who lands of the Earl did hold
And many another warrior bold,
For a wedding there was as I've been told
And the Earl's son took a bride.

The mistletoe hung on the rafters tall
And in every part of the Gothic hall;
Its berries white on the dark oak wall
Each seemed to stand alone.
The holly dark with the others white
Blent glossy leaves and berries bright.
That, touched by the blazing Yule-log's light
In ruby lustre shone.

The bride was a maid of beauty rare With bright blue eyes and shining hair;

And with a riddle stated fair
She every lover tried;
He must plant a grove of ten straight rows
Five trees must every row disclose.
And twenty-one the whole compose—
And he had won his bride.

In the "Mystic Castle" is gathered a band
Of the bravest "Knights" in our "Mystic Land;"
Solvers and writers of puzzles grand—
Each one is true and tried.
To them I bring this riddle here.
Nor doubt but that the mists they'll clear,
And make the answer straight appear
On this glad Christmas tide.

SWAMP ANGE.

No. 377. Enigma. You may take the Goddess of the chase,
The one that sure health brings;
And turn her 'round and 'round about
And the Goddess you'll have of springs.
Grafton, Illinois.

No. 378. Anagram. (Awarded Second Prize.) (A Scriptural Quotation)

(A Scriptural Quotation)

SEE IT—HOW HEAVEN STAR SHINES AFTER.

O star of hope, whose ray divine
The shepherds led, to Mary's child,
Shine, on this darkened life of mine—
To light the way so lone and wild.

And in the midnight of despair—
Angelic beam of Heaven's own light
Come to me then—a vision fair
As on the Christ-child's natal night.

Linger bright star in Heaven's donic;
Shine on, shine on, and do not cease
Until I reach that Heav'nly home,
Where I shall find the "Prince of Peace."
(Inseribed to "Frantz.")
Pala, Cal.,

No. 379 Deletion.

Pala, Cal.,

No. 379. Deletion.

No. 379. Deletion.

Oceans of joy in the Yule Tide,
Beautiful pleasures and blessings beside,
Hearts warm and true, with love overflowing,
Rivaling each other, alternately showing
With their gifts and remembrance, regard and esteem,
Making the time one bright fairy dream.
Oh! the long-ago past of the olden time,
Total ye've come with your glory sublime,
Reflection of Heavenly blessings on earth,
Who can bespeak your matchless worth?
Joys undescribed that time cannot worst,
Joys undefined that time cannot worst,
Beauteous ye are in your yearly donation,
Making one day an Elysian ovation.

Binghamton, N. Y.,
No 380. Square.

Binghamton, N. Y., FRANTE.

No 380. Square.

1. A branch. 2. A military robe. 3. Shapes. 4 o gather. 5. The American shad, (Supp.) 6. Enured. San Francisco, Cal., SEAR.

San Francisco, Cal.,

No. 381. Double Diamond.

Across. 1. A letter. 2. A worthless man. 3. A French geographical name. 4. A sort of bean. 5. Alkaloids obtained from the cabbage bark tree. 5. One who appears, (obs.) 7. Roots. 8. That which shuts the opening of a vessel. 9. A letter.

Down. 1. A letter. 2. Casual event. 3. A name applied to a resinous substance. 4. A species of lynx. 5. A supposed peculiar acid. 6. Enumerated. 7. Whines. 8. A resinous substance. 9. A letter.

Park Side, Ills., Cowboy.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

1. For the best list, two dozen nicely written visiting cards, (offered by Oldcastle.)

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Outfit."

SPECIALS:—Fountain Pen of Comfort and Carl's
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among the rest of the solvers.
Competition closes March 1, 1893. Solutions, solvers and prize-winners in April "Mystic Castle."

ABOUT UMBRELLAS.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



are referred to as "Umbrella-wearing Chiefs," Among the Arabs it is a mark of distinction, and in Moroeco the emperor and his family alone are allowed to use it.

The carliest specimens were very heavy and inconvenient. They were made of oiled slik or glazed cotton cloth, the stretchers were of cane, and the ribs of whalebone. The ribs and stretchers were jointed together very roughly. The prices were so high that but few people could afford one. Later on, steel was introduced in place of whalebone, and the weight and size was thus greatly reduced. Improvements in the manner of construction, new materials for covering and reduction in prices soon gave importance to the umbrella market. London tradesmen sell many million dollars worth of umbrellas.

Those who wish to protect their umbrellas should observe the following rules: It should be enclosed in a case when not in use. In walking, it should be grasped by the handle and not by the silk, otherwise that portion which is held will become worn. When wet it should be loosely closed and hung from the handle until it is dry. Then roll it up carefully. To do this, take the umbrella by the handle, shake it so that the folds hung naturally, and then slip the hand which grasps the handle down further until it grasps the tips of the steel ribs. Now begin at the point, and with the other hand wrap the folds neatly and snugly about the frame, securing it with the tape and button.

The great importance of the umbrella is shown by its general use. It is met with in every possible variety from the Napoleon blue silk of the London exquisite to the coarse green cotton of the Irish scrubwoman, and its fair-weather relative, the parasol, or sunshade, varies in material from the pearl-handled, lace-fringed French artiele to the combination of brilliant paper and bamboo of the Japanese.

No more amusing sight can be imagined than the market-place of some quaint old German town during a heavy shower, when all cover themselves with a portable tent of every conceivable color which co



Amy—"Papa, dear, Mr. Hunker says he loves the ground I walk on." Papa—"No doubt, my daughter. Young Hunker wants the earth."—S., G. & Co's Monthly

An Artistic Disappointment.



"Dear me, is that father? How he has changed."

HOW HE PERFORMED THE MIRACLE.

There once lived a



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THE MAIDEN'S VOW.

"Come rest in this bosom," "Comrades," and 142 other very popular songs with music will be sent free if you address Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine, and enclose 40. for postage when writing for new catalogue and premium list for Comport.

LADIES' FANCY WORK SET.

LADIES' FANCY WORK SET.

We have just imported thousands of Crochet Sets, they contain 3 vegetable ivory and steel crochet hooks different sizes, coming in a screw top wooden case; these sets are what every lady wants in her work basket or for pocket companion. One hook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Comfort, Augusta, Maine, desire to have all read the grand February Issue and will send one of those complete sets free to all who send 4c. for mailing same together with sample copy of February Comfort.

SILK AND SATIN RIBBONS GIVEN AWAY.

SILK AND SATIN RIBBONS GIVEN AWAY.
We have a special Premium Bargain Offer this month in the way of Laddes' wear. Desiring to get all the yearly subscribers we can to start the New Year with we will give one of our regular packages of Picot and Crown Edge Ribbons of latest and fashionable style shades for only two yearly subscribers to Comport at 25c. each. As these packages contain a variety of different lengths from one yard each and upward, for hat and bonnet ties, bows, scarfs, etc., etc. this offer is especially rare at this time, and will only hold good for 30 days. We have a Lace or Hamburg package that we will also give one each of for two yearly subscribers, or if 6 subscribers are obtained at one time we will send all three packages, all charges paid. Address, Publishers of Comport, Augusta, Me.

A positive radical Cure at home. (Sealed) Book glyling full particulars Sent Free. Address DR. W. S. RICE, Box C. Smithville, Jeff. Co., N. Y.

WATCH WHEN THE DOG COMES OUT.
THIS Weather Warning will faithfully forecast the weather for the ensuing 24 hours, so that you can get your own weather report without waiting for the newspapers to tell you what the weather is going to be west, evelone warning. When the weather is going to be west, and approaches the opening (see illustration above), giving a signal that there is a storm approaching, and as the storm subsides, or if it will be over during the next 24 hours, a butterfly in all its splendor appears to tell you that sunshine is at hand, to gladden the hearts of mankind. The butterfly and the dog are made of metal in handsome colors. The front is handsomely decorated with famy designs and figures. In the centre stands an accurate thermometer; the whole thing being so simple that a child will understand it at once. When the devastating hurricane, eyclone and wind storms are approaching your home, this machine warms you long ahead, giving you time to prepare. It is a wonderful machine, and will save your and the storms are approaching to the companies of the storms are approached to the companies. It is a wonderful machine, and will save your time to prepare. It is a wonderful machine, and will save your time to prepare. It is a wonderful machine, and will save your time to prepare, and she will know the most suitable dress to wear, etc. Enclose 56 cents to Morse & Co., Box 905 Augustan, Mec. Family Records

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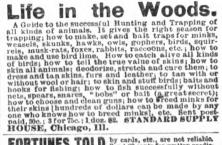
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CRAYON PORTRAITS!

If you will send us within the next 30 days a photograph or a tintype of yourself, or any member of your family, living or dead, we will make you one of our enlarged life-like CRAYON PORTRAIT absolutely free of charge. This offer is made to introduce of photo, and send same to us. (Established in 1876.) References: Rev. T, be witt Talmadge, all newspaper publishers, Banks, and Express Companies of the Brooklyn. P. S.—We will forfeit \$100 to anyone sending us photo, and not revon picture Free of charge. Address all letters to New York and

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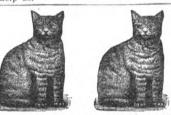


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Bend 20 cents for written prediction of your future and PIN PIETURE of future husband and wife, as revealed by astrology. Give date of birth. Address ASTROLOGER, Lock Box 117, Kansas City, Mo.



MAGIC LANTERN, GIVEN AWAY! Any one wishing a New Style Magic Lantern, with Views, Slip, Slides, etc., Free, can secure the complete \$25.00 outfit, as here illustrated, without costing one cent, by addressing Comfort, Augusta, Maine. We have hit on a new way to advertise and will pay you to help us.



ABOUT THE DEAR TABBY CAT & KITTENS.

ABOUT THE DEAR TABBY CAT & KITT As '10,000 PRIZE BEAUTY.

As '10 llue blood tells' in the buman family, so it is that and beautiful shade of alone Markers were takes the lead in the gifty of these meet useful and affectionate pets. When, in the same didentines, they were embalanced at death, it was little thought that the great adherenceder. THE LIVE YANKER would manufacture STUFFED CATS they Aft St urned out already to stuff, however. It of course was never thought possible to reproduce CATS' HAIRS or manufacture cat-skins un or from heavy cloth, but results und her latest product is just perfection in eath. They are fall life-size, 13 inches high, FRU-DUCED IN COLORS, being the most perfect presentation of a household cat that ene can imacine, and an exact institution of THE \$10.00 Bit cat show. They come already to stuff with cotton (or any waste material), and by simply sawing tocether you have a call coloring so natural that you or your dog could not tell it from a NATH Color of the Cat State of the Cat St

being, like the dalls advertised, INDESTRUCTIBLE. Having

INDESTRUCTIBLE. Having the pred cheated of versich, they can be sent by mail to any part of the country, and for selling at CHURCH PAIRS, CHARITY BALES, Ero., Ero., they are a decided neverly, and go like het cake when offered by agents at the bouset. Is cost hearly 25,000 to get Till FIRST CAT ready for sale. MANY MILLIONS will be add, and Till FIRST HUNDRED THOUSEAND are to be GIVEN AWAY to all sending if course for a three-months' subscription to our prime monthly magazin Finist HUNDRED THOUSAND are to be GIVEN AWAY to all sending 15 cents for a three-month; subscription to our prime monthly magazine "COMPORT," which, with its new cyright prize features, is first attained as circulation of nearly ten offlicing the content of the



WATCH WHEN THE DOG COMES OUT.



Copyright, 1892, by the Publishers of COMFORT.

NEW YEAR to you Jolly evening

children. Dear me, how

many children have dirty finger-nails. Can't keep them clean? Easy enough. When you wash your hands catch up the soap by the corner till it enters the nails. That softens the dirt. Take tooth pick or sharp pointed piece of wood and the point

will bring out the soap and the rest of the secretions. Don't blush; Ihad to be told of my short-comings. You will always think of Uncle Charlie when you clean your nails.

ET me tell you of a friend of mine who came from England on a visit to New York. After a week's pleasure with him, he journeyed West. Just before his departure he took my hand, and with a sad tone remarked, "I have known you a week, we shall probably never meet again. To-morrow I shall think

much of you, but after a lapse of time I shall entirely forget you. The rush of life's affairs crowd out so many pleasant memories."

"Don't bother about that," said I; "you shall never forget me. You notice this pen-knife? Well, whenever you see the blade open as you

well, whenever you see the state open as you see it here you will remember my name, and think of me." For years I have had letters and postals from my friend and he always commences by saying "bear L Isaw a pen-knife open yesterday and I thought of you, etc." Anything off from the ordinary impresses the mind and eye.

off from the ordinary

"NEW AND OLD TRICKS."



HERE are some funny things I used to do

used to do
when a
youngster
and I daresay you have tried one or more of
them, but for old-times sake gather 'round and
let's try a few. Please shut the hall door, Emma,
it's cold in the room. Thanks.



First comes the carpenter's rule. I'll open it three times from me; see, I do it slow. Well, that's funny, can't do it? Hand it to me-now watch close; one, two, three. Try it again,



Henry; that's it-one, two, three. Ask your father to do it sometime.

THE CRAZY RUG.

Take a piece of writing paper, cut off two strips 11-4 inches wide and 4 inches long. Fold them lengthwise four times, so they look like a large tape. Bend them in centre, 'till ends meet.



Take two elastics, (they keep these little rubber bands at most stationery or fancy goods stores) one 2 inches long, one 1 1-4 inches long. Put the two papers between the elastics thus:
Now twist the elastic several times and bring the ends together. Now lay it on the table. What a curious bug!

FLOATING NEEDLE.



NEVER A DROP SPILT.



I fill the same tumbler full of water, so full that a tiny drop will overflow it. Though I fill it to the brim with pins, put in one by one, slowly, the water will not overflow. Why? The displacement is so gradual. Well, children, I am not scientific enough to explain the reason. No doubt it is simple enough when

FULL OF PINS. you know.

DO DEW PAY YOUR DUE.

(Some of my nieces and nephews commit the following to memory; it sounds queer when repeated rapidly.)

One Mr. Dew owed Mr. New A note, o'erdue. Now Mr. Dew, full well he knew The sum was due.

So to renew this note to New, He gave Miss Dew A bran new one for Mr. New.

New knew the due from Dew was due. And missed it too; But when Miss Dew gave New the due, In love he grew.

It came about that Mr. Dew Gave New Miss Dew, And Mr. New he gave in lieu To Dew, his due.

All smiled, shook hands and said "Adieu." EIGHT POINTED STARS FOR A QUILT.



When you are making a patch-work quilt, girls, here is a way by which with one stroke of the scissors you can cut double stars for your pattern. Of course you can enlarge your stars by using more paper. Take a piece of paper 7 1-2 inches. Fold it as follows: follows:

7 1-2 by 71-2 inches.

Besides making a very useful pattern this is a cute little trick for the Boysto entertain themselves or friends some evening.



evening. 1st fold. In the third fold, cut out where it is dotted.







2nd fold.

Result.

3rd fold. RESOLUTIONS.

Now children we will make some good resolutions for the year. Keep our clothes, faces, hands and minds clean, also teeth and ears as well as nails, and further, as my Grandmam used to say, "Slick up your hair three times a day, Charlie."

We won't push, tease, pout; yes you may, a little, I won't have you too good, but don't be mean. You can have lots of fun and be decent about it. Eat slow, avoid colds and when you get one, get a warm, quick!

Never mind the heathen, plank down your pennies for your poor neighbor; one American saved from starvation is worth a nation of nude monkeys

monkeys
Don't try and think you're right when you know you're wrong, as Jimmy H. did. He would not steal the apples but let the other boys climb the tree and get them. Later on he'd eat a half dozen. Stolen fruit tastes sweet, but when you swallow it, it goes down side-

but when you swallow it, it goes nown sine-ways.

Pitch in and have a good time. Wear out your shoes and read Comport and you'll be happy. Don't forget that next month, the 22nd, George Washington would be 160 years old if he were alive.

Sammy, leave your shoes in the cobbler's tomorrow, your heels are run down. Our exteriors must look well, a shop window tells what kind of goods are kept inside. You, Ruby, must not put on that greasy hair ribbon again; forgive me for finding fault, but I love you all, children, and want you kept pure and to look "spandy."

Whe lite rearly a o'clock—bed-time. Good-

to look "spandy."

Why, it's nearly 9 o'clock—bed-time. Good-night; kiss all round.
Good-night.

Good-night.

"A story first?"

All right. Well, once there was a man and he had a wife and six children. He was very poor, and earned little at his trade—bell hanging.

Once he did a lot of work for a new electric company. He felt glad, but when his bill came due they paid him back in stock at fifty cents a share. He felt bad. He could not sell it, but he had to take it. It broke him. He took sick and for several months did not work. One day he saw his stock, Bell Telephone, quoted at \$350 per share. He sold two shares; the balance he sold when it reached \$960 per share.

He lives with his children in Europe now. What appears to be hard luck often turns out good luck.

There now, good-night again.

UNCLE CHARLIE.

'Don't Tobacco Spit Your Life Away Is the startling, truthful title of a little book just received, telling all about Notobac, the wonderful, harmless, economical, guaranteed cure for the toacco habit in every form. Tobacco users who want to quit and can't. by mentioning Comport can get the book mailed free. Address THE STERLING REMEDY CO., Box 712, Indiana Mineral Springs, Ind. They also offer exclusive territory to good agents.

OPIUM morphine Habit Cured in 10 to 20 days. No pay till cured. DR. J. STEPHENS, Lebanon, Ohio.

MT. GOLD PEN. 480 SCRAP PROTURES, RIDDLES and VERSES, GAMEOP HAPPY-GO-LUCKY, SIZE 18218, and AGENT'S FULL Send 2a, for parties. KING CAED CO., NORTH HAVEN, CONN.

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RFUMES FREE! A bottle of CUith terms to Agents and samples of 24 other perfumes free. g. ALONZO K. FERRIS, Perfumer, STAMFORD, CONN.

YOUR FUTURE REVEALED. Written prediction of your life, 10c. Give date of birth. Astrologer, Box 325, Kansas City, Mo.

AGENTS At home or to travel. Team furnished free. P.O. VICKERY, Augusta, Me.

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\$25 to \$50 per week, to Agents, Ladles or Gentlemen, using or selling "Old Reliable Plater." Only practical way to replate rusty and

MEN WANTED Every county, to distribute circulars ONLY. OASH PAID. Benther Stamp. ADVERTISERS' BUREAU, No. to BUREAUNA, NEW YORK CITY.

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You can now grasp a fortune. A new guide to rapid weath, with 240 fine engravings, sent free to any person. This is a chance of a lifetime. Write atones. Lynn & Co. 48 Bond St. New York



\$15.00 Buys a Gent's Gold-Filled (STEM WIND) WATCH (DUST PROOF)
(OPEN FACE) WATCH (COMPLETE)
with Elgin or Waltham Movement. Guaranteed to wear 15 years. Sent C. O. D.,
with privilege of examination before
paying for same. Address
C. R. BLAKELY,
Bradford, McKean Co., Pa.

CURE FITS

MEN WANTED!!

Coung, old or middle-aged men to try a NEW ERTAIN CURE for Nervousness, Weak-tess or Debility, from whatever cause. I will end the prescription of this remedy which cured the prescription of this remedy which cured FREE to anyone. Enclose stamp. Address CHAS. GAUS, MARSHALL, MICH.





-100 A GENUINE PHOTO-TAKING MACHINE, NOT A TOY, But a Perfect Picture Producer, to be set up and used in any home.

In the line of our hundreds of low priced and reliable specialties, we now manufacture this **Complete Photographing Outfit**, which will be our leader during the coming season. This outfit consists of everything shown in cut and mentioned below; A strong and perfectly made CAMERA, which will take a picture 21-2 inches square, complete with adjustable holder for Plate and PERFECT LENS with cap; A package of the renowned "Harvard Dry Plates; 2 Japanned Tin Developing Trays; 1 Printing Frame; 1 package Blue Process Paper; 1 sheet Ruby Paper; 1 package Photo Mounts; Hyposulphite Soda; Developing Chemicals: complete and explicit in-

THING. The winterest and fr Outfit you can

Over \$2.00 Worth of New and Handsome Patterns for 30 Cents.

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One Alphabet, Imitation Chinese, 26 Let-ters, 2 inches high. Very handsome. Sun Flower and Cat-o'-nine-tails, 4x6 in. Design for Tray Cloth, 8x8 inches, see il-Design, Daisies, 6 in. high. [lu Design, Wild Roses, 4x4 inches. Design for Laundry Bag, 6x8 in. Conventional Design, Crescents for Splashers, Tray Cloths, etc Outline Girl, 13 inches high. Handsome RopeSilk Design Fleur-de-Lis, 8x6 inches.

Design, Daisies, 5 in, high Design, Acorns and Leave 4x4 inches. Splasher Design, 11x20 inch-

es, very handsome Design for Applique, 8x inches, of Roses.
Design for Egg Cosey.

Design, Cherries with Blos soms; Pretty for Tray Cloths, 6x9 inches.

al Design, Lily in Circle, very handsome, for Sofa Pillows, Chair Cushions.

Q

TENTS:—
The actual retail value of the patterns in this outfit as sold at any retail pattern store is over \$2.00, and while the patterns are comparatively few in number, every one is perfect, large and complete, and several of the patterns included are each actually worth more than the price of the outfit complete. The price charged for stamping either one of the tray cloth or splasher designs in this outfit, at any store, will fully equal, if not exceed the price of this outfit.

The designs are all new and desirable and are perforated on the new cheap paper used as a substitute for the expensive linen bond paper, and may be used for powder effect satisfaction. Do not attempt to use them for wet, or each stamping 50 to 75 times each, and will give perfect satisfaction. Do not attempt to use them for wet.

perfect satisfaction. Do not attempt to use them for wet, or paint stamping, as it will certainly spoil them. With each outil we send one Box Black Powder, one Pad, and full Instructions how to do the stamping successfully, the whole sent secure in a

strong case 30 CENTS

Given free for a club of two yearly subscribers at 25 cents each. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



MY DEAR FRIENDS:
I have so many
letters this month
that I will omit my
usual talk and reading
with you, and let you
have all the space for
yourselves. My heart is
year, which means to many the opening of another
year of suffering, with few bright spots in the darkness; but, dear friends,

"God's ways are dark, but soon or late
They touch the shining hills of day."

Take courage, and look up!
"I know your life is a darkened one,
But the clouds will drift away.
And the sunlight of gladness shine out bright
For you some time, some day.
Then keep a brave heart through the battle of life,
Remembering this alway,
That for every night of sorrow,
Will be given a glad, bright day."

"I have been a Shut-In for several years; but, dear
cousins, I have not found it all clouds. We have
that magic word hope, which is an anchor to our
soul, and if anchored in the right haven, let wordly
affairs go as they will, all is well as to our eternal
welfare. If we would lay aside selfishness, and not
think of ourselves as the worst afflicted persons in
the world, perhaps we can find some way to alleviate
the sufferings of those worse off than ourselves. And
cousins who are blessed with good health, and with
this world's goods, do not miss an opportunity to assist the helpless in any way, for thus you are obeying
the Master's command. Although physically weak,
my mental faculties have retained their vigor, so
that I have been able to read and study good and useful literature. Reading good books widens our views
of humanity, and gives us a better knowledge of the
world at large; and I think we have more charity for
the human family, both rich and poor, by reading the
standard literature of the day. I should be glad to
receive some letters from the cousins, as I live in an
out-of-the-way country place, and have been isolated
from the society of young folks so long. Although a
Shot-In, I am young and ambitious, and take a great
interest in all that is going on in the world.

IDA B. SLOAN, Fallsburg, Ky."

If there is anything that w

If there is anything that will give us more charity, we should certainly try it, for that is the grace which seems to be rarest in this world. Reading certainly broadens one's views in all directions, and why not in that?

seems to be rarest in this world. Reading certainly broadens one's views in all directions, and why not in that?

"I received a sample copy of Comport last winter, and it was a case of love at first sight,' so I subscribed for it immediately. The only fault I find is that it does not come often enough. I enjoy the Shut-In page, as I belong to that class myself; I have not walked a step for over twenty years. God bless Venus for defending the poor invalids; no one knows until after a trial of affliction, how much a few kind words of sympathy mean, or how a book or some little token of remembrance is cherished long after it would be forgotten by a person who is well and happy. I would like to correspond with some of the cousins in Fla. and Calif. for a while, to gain information about the country. I live among the W. Va. hills, in the new oil region. The scenery here is beautiful, and in some places where an oil rig is set among the trees and rocks, it reminds one of some old castle tower that you read of. Sallie B. McCoach.

Box 45, Sistersville, W. Va."

"I am a cripple boy, and have been in the house most ofmy life. My parents have been too poor to give much schooling. If I could only get out like other boys, I could work and make money, and get a good education. If the cousins would help me, I world be so thankful. I enclose a reference.

T. L. McCormack, Idell, Ark."

Dear afflicted ones;—In times of trial, how precious is human love and sympathy. In reading your letters, I find there are cases more grievous than my own, although mine is a double affliction. My only child, an asthmatic, has gone to western Kansas for the fourth time, and I am deprived of his society. I have tried that climate, and cannot live there, while he cannot live here. At his departure sunshine left my home, and it is now very lonely, as I am unable to go out, or do much work. To those whose hearts are overflowing with sorrow, I would say, you have my sympathy in full. Would like to hear from some of the burdened mothers. Mrs. A. B. T

"Will some of the cousins send shells to a lonely Shut-In, also pieces of velvet with their name embroidered on them? I want to make an autograph quilt to pass the lonely winter hours.

Mrs. K. Morris, Victor, Mont."

quilt to pass the lonely winter hours.

Mrs. K. Morris, Victor, Mont."

"I feel impressed to write, for I see that so many are Shut-Ins as well as myself. I have great sympathy for them. I was left alone in the world; my parents died years ago, and left nothing to help me. But I studied and worked hard to gain the profession of a physician, which I accomplished in 1878. I had only practised about 3 years, and was having good success, when suddenly I was taken down helpless with rheumatism. The best physicians failed to reach my case. I have been a great sufferer nearly II years, living on the mercy of others, which makes me very sad. When I look at my diploma hanging on the wall, tears come into my eyes, thinking how hard I worked both mind and body to obtain it, and it is no good to me now. I would be very glad to receive letters from any one.

Mary Steward, M.D., Landys Lane, Pa."

Another physician to join our circle. Our dear Dr. Anthony will have a cheering word for her, I am sure.

"Can I add the widows mite of sunshine? I have

Anthory will have a cheering word for her, I am sure.

"Can I add the widows mite of sunshine? I have many friends among the COMFORT band. The loss of team and crops forced me to look for a better place, and although almost an invalid, I came by wagon to the Ind. Ter., where I made my first visit to a dug-out. Severe illness cast me among strangers, and without reading; and never did I realize the beauties of even a coffee card! and I made a vow that if the Lord spared me, to do all I can for the lonely Shutlins. Although a bread-winner, with fatherless little ones, and only a rented home, I think I can pay tithes. I'll first say a word for the dug-out; it is like the Bridget's shawl, keeps out the cold as well as the heat, and for a cheap home is the safest from storms, etc. I rented on the Verdigris river, with high bluffs on the west side; and when tired working, the little girls and I go curio hunting. There are rocks in layers, and between is petrified moss and shells, snakewood, etc; but take care! there is the home of the tarantula and centipede, lizards, etc. Between the rocks the Indian of long ago was placed when dead, and rocks piled around him. Then cross the river and see the lovely trumpet vine, as high as the tallest tree, with its clusters of bright red trumpets and green leaves; some vines 6 in. through. Enough for every Shut-In in our band; and for them ONLY! if they will send stamped and addressed envelope, I will enclose seed, and all may have one at their window. Then there is the mistletoe, with its white waxy berries, and leaves that stay green all winter, the Indian apricot, with its lovely flower and good fruit, the cane brakes, the pawpaws, like bananas, the rich persimmons, and some years pecans, hickory nuts, walnuts, wild grapes and plums, We are among the Cherokees and Delawares. Many of them have fine homes, with or yans, carpets and lace curtains.

They love pretty things, are fond of quilts and jewelry and lace, and many dress in silk and plush. They rent to us poor whites their rich lands. Our worst feature is no school near, 4 miles away. This will let my Comport friends know that I am not lost, only drifted away to the wilds of the frontier.

MARY A. LAUGHLIN, Nowata, Ind. Ter."

Dear Auntie and Cousins, greeting!—Here is an extract from a letter a friend sent me, that I want you to read, and then I want to make a "little grow!."

She says: "I have sent a letter and novel to every one in this month's Sunshine department except Maria Johnson. She's too good for me." Just imagine my feelings when I read that, for I am not good at all. I can truthfully sign myself, as the one did to Dr. Anthony, "a miserable sinner," for oh, I get so tired, and it is so hard to smile and smile when despair is in your heart, and all the old Adam in your nature up in arms. My letters to Comport have conveyed an impression I never meant they should. Because I wrote enthusiastically of the good work I had found to fill up the long lonely hours, you all jump to the conclusion that I am not in need of your friendship and favors. Suppose you were alone, as I am compelled to be by force of circumstances, an average of ten hours a day, would you not, even if pretty bad, enter heart and soul into anything that would take up the time, and your thoughts from your suffering? "Too good"? Heaven save me, I wish I were. I am sick, almost helpless, shut-in, and so tired—tired of it all. I must live on, however, so I want to ask some of the cousins in every State in the Union to favor me with a postal correspondence. Let us drop gruesome subjects, and see how much fun we can make Unele Sam carry for a penny, on one of his big cards. Thanks to all who have sent me papers.

MARIA JOHNSON, Pardeeville, Wise.

I do not think it was a very kind thing of your friend to do, to let you read that letter, for it could do you have been neglected. Friends, do not let this happen again.

"I want to he

"I want to heartily thank those who have contributed to my pleasure in many ways. Your loving tokens make life more desirable; may God bless and reward you all. You are doing a great and noble work. You helped to make my birthday a very happy one, and one that will long be remembered; the kind, sympathetic words brought floods of sunshine and cheer that can never be forgotten.

Mrs. WM. Pingrey, Yorkshire Centre, N. Y."

Dear friends:—You have become so much a part of my daily thoughts that you seem like old friends, who come each month to bring me your troubles and appeal to my sweetest sympathies. Your trials and sufferings have found a chord responsive in my heart, have awakened a sincere interest in your welfare,

appear to my sweetest sympathies. Your trials and sufferings have found a chord responsive in my heart, have awakened a sincere interest in your welfare, and if could know that my letter had sent one little stray beam into any of your sick rooms, it would bring me more genuine pleasure than to have gone into the halls of fashion and received the homage of princes. Dear shut-in ones, be brave, be patient; remember that you bear the cross for Christ, that you are Christ-bearers.

"Ah, why should I an arrant coward be To shrink from cares or ills He sendeth me?" Tis nobler to be brave, and bravely bear The cross He sends, if it be plain or fair, Remembering that God sendeth it to me. His children may not walk smooth paths always, Nor dream away life's hours in sunny mead; 'Tis theirs to blindly walk where faith may lead, In dark Gethsemane to pass some days, O'er barren wastes, hot sands, the way may lie, Up rocky steeps may wind, and mountains high, But they should choose, though rough, the narrow way; With that wise man of Eastern lore should think:

way; With that wise man of Eastern lore should think: That those who've learned with Christlike faith to pray, At pain's dark well a solace sweet may drink." Cousin Wee Wee

I must now say good-bye, and God bless you all!
Your loving, AUNT MINERVA.



THE POOR MOTHER'S SORROY.

The coming of the cold disagreeable Winter weather, means the return of many old plagues.

A system that is strong and vigorous is usually im pregnable against their attacks, while the system that is weak is liable to go down before the first assault. So the way to escape the grip is to keep strong. But how? One lady in Rhode Island writes: "I was fearful that I would have the grip because I was all run down, but I took Oxien according to directions and the dreadful germs did not fasten upon me. I feel that without Oxien the grip would have taken me away."

that without Oxien the grip would have taken me away."

A bad cold is the open doorway through which this unwelcome guest frequently enters. Keep this doorway closed by an early use of Oxien. Free samples will be sent you by addressing The Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine. It will cure the symptoms easier than it can the disease and with more comfort to you, but if too late to catch the early symptoms, then take it for the disease and you will be pleased, relieved, cured.

One of Our Correspondents Writes, Jan. 1892.

Anave an interesting case to relate. A family by the name of Buck, living in our city, have a daughter Nellie, 18 years old. A little more than one year since she was taken with the Grippe, and for a time was very bad; but in time got better, when signs of St. Vitus dance appeared, and soon became very alarming. A doctor was called and attended her for 4 weeks, but the patient grew worse, when another doctor was called, who said she ought to have been cured in 4 weeks. But when he had treated her 8 weeks, the mother told me the daughter could neither dress, undress or feed herself. At this time the mother called on the last doctor and told him Nellie was growing worse all the time. He then frankly told her Nellie could never be cured. With a heavy heart she went home. About that time she was told I was selling Oxien, the wonderful food for the nerves. She came to me in person and got a 35c. box, and strange to tell, the first box was not used up before a marked improvement was visible. They kept up its use until she had taken the contents of 6 small boxes, when wonderful to relate she was perfectly cured and One of Our Correspondents Writes, Jan. 1892.

is to-day well and hearty. All the foregoing facts I nave from the parents and the young lady herself. They live within 20 minutes walk of me, and I have their permission, and Miss Nellie's also, to make these facts public. The father's name is Louis Buck. An almost parallel case, though not quite so bad, is that of a 16 year old son of Mr. Frank Fisk, living 2 miles from me. Had been similarly afflicted, and all medical skill had failed, but by a few dollars' worth of the food is now well.

P. S. Yesterday I saw and conversed with the young man, Fisk, who told me he was now perfectly cured, though he had been so bad that he had been obliged to quit his school and all his studies.

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Anvil chorus.
Ah, my words.
A sailor's love.
A love song.
Annie Laurie.
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First love.
First love.
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Girls and Boys.
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Girls and Boys.
Jack Katlin.
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Jack Katlin.
Jack Katli

Over there.
Oh, Mr. Coon.
Old Joe.
Ole Pee Dee.
Old King Crow.
Oh, Arabella.
Poor old maids.
Pesky Ike.
Paddy Snap.
Polly. The blue bird.
The parting.
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The adving.
The fairy bey.
The lngleside.
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Tulochgorum.
Tis better so.
Thou art mine.
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Alice Gray Gran an.
Bye and bye.
Bye and bye.
Bye and bye.
Bran O'Lym.
Bryan Boru.
Bryan Bo

The blue bird.

A WOMAN IN THE CASE

A TRUE STORY OF FRONTIER LIFE.

BY J. D. ELLSWORTH.

Copyright, 1893, by the Publishers of COMFORT.

DIED at her home in Denver, Mrs. Sarah Alice Worthington, born Norris, at the age of 63 years, 4 months, 6 days. Funeral Wednesday at 2 P. M. Iowa papers please copy.

This death notice appeared last week in the Rocky Mountain Press.

This death notice appeared last week in the Rocky Mountain Press.

An old lady, possibly a beloved and respected grandmother, had passed to her rest. Evidently she had friends in Iowa, but beyond the notice told very little.

Born, married, died and buried. What more could the dead ask, and yet to me there seemed a great gap in the life history.

Worthington-Norris. Two names that seemed to summarize her life and yet between them I put another and a dearer name, connected with one of the most mysterious chains of tragedy that the western frontier ever produced.

For Sallie Norris was twice married, and the full strength of her love and her life were given to her first husband.

But why reveal that name?

She is dead, and I am free to tell the thrilling story that saddened her declining years. It is a story of crime and retribution. I feel that it ought to be told, but not in that name. There are those still alive who bear it and Comport would not make the innocent suffer for the guilty.

In '79 California was an old story. Colorado

are those still alive who bear it and coares, would not make the innocent suffer for the guilty.

In '79 California was an old story. Colorado was the State where the mining fever prevailed with the greatest virulence. Rare Colorado, where the blue skies and eternal sunshine looked upon men crazed with the greed of gold, maddened by drink and the thirst for their brothers' blood.

There is little fiction told of those days. The naked truth is too terrible.

The men who saw the lowest depths of those tragedies and still live are serious, mirthless men, who do not tell what they have seen.

Many went West in the early days with the hope of fortune. More were driven West by some mistake, crime or financial disaster from whose consequences they wished to escape. They left their debts and even their names, and untrammeled turned their faces to the setting sun.

They shook off all the restraints of civilized

untrammeled turned their races were sun.

They shook off all the restraints of civilized society. They fought, gambled and drank with the reckless spirit of the time and when they dug in the mines it was to get money for more dissipations.

In the spring of 1879 Jules Ballou and his only son "Little Jules," drove across the rolling prairies. All day the father kept his eyes turned resolutely westward. It was only at



night when he slept with his boy in the canvas-covered wagon that his dreams carried him back to the eastern home that he had left.

There was a hard, almost hopeless, look in his eyes that told of some great trouble. Jules had been a very happy man, and when his trouble came it was all the harder to bear.

There was a woman in the case.

When Jules' wife ran away with his dearest friend, the home that he had loved for her sake seemed hateful to him. He felt bowed down with the weight of her shame.

Fortunately she had left him the boy or he might have ended it all with his life. As it was, he took the boy and left his home forever. The great West swallowed him up and those who had known him knew him no more. It was a hard journey across the plains. Jules was going to a new land and a new life. He had no definite plans for the future and felt some anxiety on account of the boy.

The boy settled it finally. Like every one else Jules struck the mining camps first and found them full of open lawlessness and open sin. He would not have minded for himself. In fact he was attracted by the wild orgies in which men forgot all that they had ever been.

But the boy—Jules could not bear to think of his tender nature being subjected to such influences. So he drove eastward 75 miles and took up a ranch on the Black Forks. He bought a small herd of sheep and settled down to the quiet life of a sheep-herder.

For the first few years it was a hard struggie. He had to be father and mother both to little Jules. Every day the herd had to be taken out upon the plains to graze and every night shut up again in the log corral.

Then there would be the housework to do. From the carcass of a slaughtered sheep he would cut a few slices for the frying-pan. He made the bread, boiled the potatoes and washed the dishes when they had finished eating.

Day after day, week after week, month after month, and year after year it was the same unvarying round of duty. There was no let-up-no variety. Whether he went north, or south, or east, or west

It is a terrible madness, that of the lonely sheep-



rises and sets for him alone. But it brings no joy, no hope. He takes out the sheep automatically, moved by a habit stronger than his will. He does not take his own life, but the life of his soul. Down, down his soul is dragged into the depths of a hell that his own mind has created.

his own life, but the life of his soul. Down, down his soul is dragged into the depths of a hell that his own mind has created.

His eyes grow large, but they sink into his head and scarcely see. He is tortured with a grief that some night breaks his heart and the neglected sheep starve in their corral.

It was only the boy that saved Jules from the madness in those years on the Black Forks ranch. Jules was too young to remember his former home, and healthy as an antelope he found ranch life full of interesting things. He had jolly games with Crepo, the sheep dog, and sometimes on wet nights he took his pet lamb to bed with him.

When he grew older he had a little rifle of his own and shot the prairie dogs as they stood erect guarding their holes. When the wolves came to attack the sheep, neither father nor son dreaded the danger but rather welcomed it as a pleasant excitement that relieved the dreary monotony of their life.

It was not so lonesome after the first four years. Jules was steadily growing rich. His herd was too large for one man and he hired Bill White to take care of part of the sheep.

Jules did not quite like the look in White's eye, but men were scarce for ranch work and he hired him in spite of his sinister appearance.

White had a friend who worked on the new ranch 8 miles away. "Big John" this man was called and sometimes on Sunday afternoon he would ride over to the Black Forks ranch on a high-headed buckskin broncho.

sometimes on Sunday afternoon he would ride over to the Black Forks ranch on a high-headed buckskin broncho.

There was no sinister look in Big John's eyes, which were large and honest-looking. John was a good-natured fellow and made friends everywhere. It was said that he had been a stage driver out of Cheyenne and had made money, but why he had ridden the buckskin bronche down into the Black Forks region no one could tell.

One Sunday afternoon Big John rode over to see White with a Henry rifle hanging from the horn of his saddle. It was a calm, beautiful day and Jules and his man were lying lazily on opposite hillsides watching the divided herd.

It seems incredible that such a quiet, pastoral seens should be set for a murder, but that was the bill and Big John was cast for the principal role. In cold blood he and White talked over the killing of Jules and the appropriating of his herd and other possessions. Jules gazed at them lazily without a suspicion of their purpose.

White had first suggested the diabolical plot but in the broad light of day he weakened and backed down. Treacherous even to his brother conspirator he deided to warn Jules at the last minute and free himself from further responsibility. Together the two men crossed to where the ranch owner lay.

Suddenly White broke away from his companion and shouted to Jules to run for his life.

Big John was startled by such unexpected treachery. His eyes blazed with anger, He hesitated only a minute and then brought his rifle to his cheek and fired.

Big John was startled by such unexpected treachery. His eyes blazed with anger. He hesitated only a minute and then brought his rifle to his cheek and fired.

It was Bill White that went down under that bullet. Then Jules understood. He had a good start and began a desperate race for his cabin.

It was man against here.

Life against life.

Big Jonn's blood was stirred. He sent a couple of shots after the flying herder. But they both missed. Then he spurred up his horse for the chase.

The ground was rough with dogholes but the pursuer rode desperately and was steadily gaining.

Jules was approaching his cabin. Once inside he could protect himself even against odds. It was an exciting moment but just as Jules was about to escape he stumbled and fell.

The racing broncho nearly ran down the prostrate man before John hauled him down on his haunches. Again the pursuer brought his rifle to his cheek and caught his aim.

The ranchman's son had heard the clatter of the horse's hoofs and stood with his little rifle in his hand behind the half-open door of the cabin.

The terrible scene explained itself. Little Jules took deliberate aim and fired.

Big John's gun fell to the ground with a crash. Big John himself kept his seat in the saddle. He knew he was shot, but there was yet a chance for his life. He dashed over a knoll towards the distant mining camps and disappeared with his right arm hanging useless by his side.

The Gondola mine was near Silver City in one of the wildest portions of the Rocky Mountains. It had yielded pay dirt from the very first and the vein panned out richer and richer as the shaft went down into the side of the mountain.

In the summer of 1885 there were 200 men in the workings of the Gondola—a typical gang of miners. There were but two drawbacks to the mine—the law-suit that had followed it from its first development and the water which ran slowly but steadily into the shaft.

Night and day the pumps were kept working and when the superintendent lost his chief engineer he selected One-armed



When he struck the camp that spring he had given his name as "John" in a way that seemed to stop further questioning. His right arm was stiff and awkward but his left did the work of both. In the saloon at night the men talked over the new arrival.

"He's been shot in the arm," they whispered, "No

doctor. He wont say nothin'. Must have been in a duel—for a woman."

When the surmises reached John's ears he said, "Yes, it was a duel," and that ended it, except that he was called "One-armed John" from that day. He drank little, gambled less, and seemed to save his money, but he was as popular with the men as with the superintendent.

One day the works of the Gondola were stopped. The long lawsuit had come to an end. The mine was taken by the Deputy United States Marshal who drove up the precipitous toll-road with the necessary papers.

Then the engine and pumps were still and the water rose steadily in the shaft. The miners felt that the jig was up for that season at any rate.

The superintendent left for Denver, but before he went he had a long talk with the Government officer. "I want a thoroughly competent and faithful man for custodian," said the deputy. "Who would you recommend?"

The superintendent said that John had been

or custodian," said the deputy. "Who would you recommend?"
The superintendent said that John had been trusted with the safety of the mine and the lives of the miners and was both competent and reliable.
So One-armed John was made custodian. When the miners, impatient for their pay, started to smash the machinery. John persuaded them not to do it.
When the pay did come all in gold, and the Deputy Marshal drove ten miles down to Silver City to get it, John went as a body-guard. Together they brought back the money along the lonely toll-road and under the cover of the night.
When the late snows came and the mine and camp were deserted for the winter, the faithful custodian left the mountain with \$300 in his buckskin belt.
When he reached Peublo as "John Hill" he still had the \$300 and drove a team of four gray horses that an unknown Swede had driven out of Silver City. But the first day at Pueblo he traded off the grays for a team of another color.
Here he fell in with George McCabe who had not gone to Colorado to rough it alone. George went to make his fortune but he was too much of a domestic man to give up his home. That's why when he crossed the plains he took his wife, Mary, with him, and when he came to Pueblo he set up his tent on the flats beside the muddy Arkansas.
Somehow he never got any further.
The tent had grown into a comfortable adobe house and with his team of four horses he was able to (CONCLUDED ON PAGE 15.)

(CONCLUDED ON PAGE 15.)

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CONSUMPTION CURED.

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Morse & Co.,

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Very truly,

Mus. I. E. SIMOSEY.



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With the coming of another year, and the opportunities it has in store for all, it is particularly appropriate to preach the gospel of sunlight and brightness, the sunshine of faces, and the sunshine of nature, in the home.

Too much care, thought and attention cannot be given by the homemaker to the furnishing of her house, to give it individuality and character, which means, to make it suited to the uses of her family, satisfying the needs of its members and making it something more than a mere place to eat and sleep.

But before offering a few hints for the homemakers, let me show you a cunning little ornament, from a design furnished by Miss Annie Fisher, Woodstock, N. B.



It is made as follows: Take a piece of sandlow Berlin. Make the latter into a round ball
by tying in the middle, and clip it to the shape
of a chicken's body. Make a smaller ball for
the head, with a bill of wood, and black beads
or eyes, fasten to the body and you have a
natural looking chick. Fasten it about one
inch from the edge, on the rough side of the
sand-paper. A broken egg-shell, gilded or
bronzed can be fastened over it and '1893, Just
Out' painted on the shell. It makes a dainty
ornament for the table or mantel, and is very
convenient to scratch matches upon.

Now in regard to house furnishings. It is not
a mere question of buying new or pretty
things. First, one should consider just what is
needed, whether it is useful. and whether it
will harmonize with what your room already
contains. Remember the man who had a pincushion presented to him, so gorgeous that it
made everything else look mean, and who
spent the rest of his life 'trying to live up to
his pineushion.' The haphazard choice of an
article simply because it is new or fashionable,
is a poor policy, but there are many littlethings
that add to the comfort and beauty of a home,
that can be made or acquired from time to time
with but little expense. Bear in mind in purchasing a table, chair or desk that you are buying something that should last your lifetime
and be valued by your descendants, but have
nothing that is too good to use.

Don't be afraid of letting the sunlight into
your rooms. Fade the carpets? Well, what if
it does. There is no danger of making your
home too bright.

In the way of needle-work there are lovely
things for house furnishing. A comfortable
hassock, for instance, embroidered in flat
stitch can be made with little trouble. The
sides can be of velvet, plush or heavy broadcloth of any color desired. Dark brown is a
durable color.

The sides should be fifteen inches long and
ten and three-fourths wide, cut to curve about
five inches.

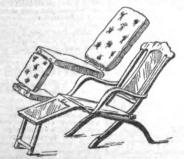


The top is covered with lighter cloth and embroidered in several c olor s in tapestry wool. The outlines of the embroidery are made in stem in gs in flat stitch. The upper edge of the hassock is bound with thick brown cord twisted with gold, and the loops at the ends also made of the same. This is the outside covering—the inner covering should be of stout drilling and filled with curled hair, or if this is not obtainable, straw or newspaper stripped into shreds may be used. Chairs and sofas should be comfortable be-

Chairs and sofas should be comfortable before all else, your tables firm, your book-cases
as strong and as good as you can afford. Do
not be persuaded to buy a chair or table that is
merely a fashion of the day. Remember it is
the upholsterer and shopman who change and
make the fashions, with an eye to business, and
be guided by your own good taste and the
money you have to spend.

A chair that will be a convenience and a com-

A chair that will be a convenience and a comfort in any home and that can be gotten up for a small amount is shown in the illustration.



A COMFORT CHAIR.

The chair alone can be purchased for about \$2.50 at almost any furniture store. It is called the steamer, or reclining chair, and when not wanted can be folded up and put away, taking but little room.

but little room.

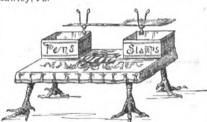
wanted can be folded up and put away, taking but little room.

It has a cane seat and back, and to make it easy for an invalid, or restful for one who is tired, it needs to be upholstered. This you can do yourself, and you will be surprised at the improvement it will make.

Measure your chair for the length of the back, then for the length of the seat with extension. Make your cushions these lengths, of stout cotton cloth and fill with feathers or curled hair. For the outside covering you can use your own judgment as to the material. If the chair is to be in constant use a dark blus drilling is advisable. You can embroider this with white, terra-cotta or old gold in large scroll patterns, or in small conventional designs, fastening it to your chair either with ribbon, cord or small brass-headed tacks.

The chairs generally come in the natural wood colors that may be ebonized, stained, gilded or painted, according to the fancy of the owner. One chair of this sort painted white and covered with two large white fur rugs, with a large cushion of sea-green silk makes an ornamental and comfortable addition to a daintily planned room.

Another Christmas design is here given which, had it reached us in season, would surely have won a prize. It is for a desk ornament, and was sent by Mrs. Helen M. Cooke of Hawley, Pa.



A USEFUL ORNAMENT.

A USEFUL ORNAMENT.

She says: "We were especially blessed with turkeys at New Years, and thinking the feet might prove good for something, I preserved them. I sawed them off above the joint, and standing them in a perfectly upright position, with toes well spread, fastened them there with numerous strings and pins. They stood thus until a few weeks ago, when they were dried hard and in perfect shape. Fortunately, they were all of the same size. I measured the height, and cut off each just below the joint, so they would be level.

Then I gave them a good coat of gilt and behold, four perfect hammered brass ornaments. A ragged edged card made a good table top with the feet for legs, and was easily glued on. Two small pasteboard boxes were next glued to the card directly over the two back table legs, and a wish-bone fastened firmly to the inner side of each, and then I made a pen-wiper to go with it. I filled one small box with pens, the other with postage stamps, and laid a pen and holder across the upright wish-bones.

The card cost 2 cents, the pens 10 cents, and the stamps 50. The gilt can hardly be counted, as it took but a few drops.

Another useful article is described by Anna Gurske, Omaha, Nebraska. It is a "Catch-all," and is made as follows: First procure a large tin drinking cup and cover it with Java canvas, which may be worked in cross-stitch. Draw the canvas tightly over the cup, first turning in the edges.

The top is made of satin

the edges.
The top is made of satin and drawn up with a cord and tassel. The handle is covered with the canvas and bound together at edges.

To return to the furnishing question; have your furniture

A PRETTY CATCH ALL

question; have your furniture to use. Don't set it about stiffly but arrange it as you want it. In the matter of draperies, you can begin with the figured scrim, with cream tinted ground, that sells for 25 cents a yard and is suitable for a sitting room. You can purchase this in cream tints, or in white, with conventional figures in blue, yellow or terra-cotta. From these simple hangings one can go upward through a varied stock of lace and silken damask. It is good taste that does more for the completion of a room, or for the making of a dress than fashion, or simply money. The country girl who knows nothing of Parisian modes, is frequently dressed in a more tasteful and becoming manner than the woman of wealth to whom dress means nothing but the purchase of expensive material. So in a house, the furnishings may be inexpensive but the result artistic and comfortable.

The Busy Bees are to have another chance to

The Busy Bees are to have another chance to exercise their ingenuity, as a new prize offer is to be made early in the New Year that will give all an opportunity to do their best to win the generous cash awards that will then be announced. And with Comport costing but 26 cents a year the publishers hope that every Bee will make it a point to secure at least one new subscriber before the end of this month. If our

friends will do this our subscription list will be doubled (making it over two millions) and the cash prizes will then also be doubled.

Hoping that 1893 may be a profitable and happy year for you all, I am Busy BEE.

CORNISH IN CONGRESS.

CORNISH IN CONGRESS.

Our readers will be interested to know that State Senator Johnston Cornish of the world famed firm of Cornish & Co., Piano and Organ manufacturers of Washington, New Jersey, has been triumphantly elected to represent the large and important Fourth District of New Jersey in Congress. From Mayor of Washington to State Senator and thence to Congress is a remarkable record for so young a man as Johnston Cornish, but his personal magnetism, his unstained record and his undoubted abilities both as a business man and a politician make it apparent that his success is deserved. The excellence of the Cornish Pianos and Organs is well known, and the remarkable plan of business by which Messrs. Cornish sell their instruments at factory cost direct to the general public has been so wonderfully popular, saving to the people the enormous profits made by agents and middlemen, that we should not wonder if we have to chronicle in a short time yet another addition to their extensive range of factories at Washington, New Jersey. Their beautiful catalogue, the finest ever issued and containing photographs of the members of the firm and full particulars and prices of all instruments manufactured by them is sent to any one free on application.

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1893.

May it be a happy year to all.

This paper has the largest guaranteed circulation of any publication in America.

We are determined that Comfort readers shall have the very best stories that skill and genius can produce and money can purchase. And in view of the popular favor with which the productions of the Nutshell Story Club have been received, we are pleased to announce an increase in the cash prizes. Full particulars will be found elsewhere in this issue.

The month of January is the time for beginning good things and this is therefore the season for subscribing to Comfort and getting your friends to do so. It costs only 25 cents a year and no other paper has such splendid prize and premium features or is of such gennine interest to all.

The death of Jay Gould has occasioned extraordinary comment the world over. The usual eulogies have given place to wide-spread discussion of his remarkable career as a financier and the wonderful opportunities of the great country in which such a career is possible. Comfort has no desire to paint Mr. Gould either as a saint or a hero, but it is undeniable that his rise from poverty and obscurity to the position of the wealthiest and most powerful financier of his time illustrates what pluck, perseverance and ability will do in America In Mr. Gould all these qualities were wonderfully developed, and his success was phenome-While the ambition of his life was the acquisition of money and while his methods may have been open to criticism, he made his money chiefly off those who were arrayed against him in the struggle for wealth, and many of these were men who posed as great philanthropists and Christians and who are most severe in their criticism of him to-day. His enormous possessions were the means of developing a great section of this country and of giving lucrative employment to hundreds of thousands of men, of whose interests he was always considerate. He was no hypocrite and sentiment had no place in his business affairs. His private character and his home life were above reproach. He opened his beautiful house to the young actress with whom his son fell honestly in love, and welcomed her as a daughter.

The world is inclined to censure him for the selfish disposal of his vast wealth, but it is not for men to know how he dispensed it during his life. So say those who knew him best.

The past year has been remarkable not only for the peace and prosperity which it has brought to the people of the United States, but for the great political revolution of November 8th and the alarm arising from the introduc tion of cholera into New York. No better proof of the healthful condition of the country is needed than the calmness with which it passed through the one and stamped out the other.

We may look to the New Year with hope and curious interest. There will be general anxiety in the business world to observe the effects of the political changes about to take place. But there is universal confidence in the patriotism and good sense of the people's representatives and a firm belief that the administration of the government will be conducted wisely and for the best interests of the whole country. One of the events of 1893 will be the Columbian Exposition, which will attract to the United States the attention of the whole world. Thousands of people from every country and clime will visit Chicago during the year.

We may well expect this year to be one of the most important in its influence upon the business and social life of our country. While foreign powers are alarmed by the prospecte of

war, our own land continues to be blessed. filled with plenty, and at peace with all man-

Comfort, ever on the alert, proposes to keep pace with the march of advancement and we shall shortly change the make-up of our paper, introducing new and original features that will startle the world.

"That Woman's Curse." This is the title of one of the best stories ever published. It is from the pen of that clever writer Sam Davis of the Carson Appeal and will appear [in "Comfort" for February

NEW YEAR'S DAY.

Written for Comport.

Merrymakings of New Year's
Eve and New Year's Day are of
very ancient date, and throughout the Christian world the custom of sitting up,
either at home with
friends, or in churches, to watch the
lod year out and the
new year in is still

new year in, is still popular. The First of Janu-

new year in, is still popular.

The First of January marks a day in the calendar when many people make their good resolves for the coming months, generally forgetting that every day is the beginning of a new year and therefore equally desirable as a time for good resolutions for the present and future. Still, it is well to remember January First as an imaginary milestone on the turnpike of human life—a starting point for fresh exertion.

The "Wassail" at the New Year Eve gathering is one of the old customs still kept up in many parts of England and Scotland. On the approach of twelve o'clock, a kettle of warmed, spiced and seasoned ale is prepared, and when the clock strikes the knell of the departing year, each member of the family drinks of this mixture, wishing each other "Good health, a Happy New Year, and many of them," with a general hand-shaking. The party then start out with the hot kettle and a provision of cakes, and visits their neighbors. If they meet others whom they know, they stop and "give and take" sips from their respective kettles.

Doubtless the more modern practice of New Year calls originated in the "Wassail Visit." But this custom is rapidly dying out. In New York and Washington, where but a few years ago all people of social position opened their doors to throngs of visitors, very few "receive" at all."

The failure of all jovful observances of this day would be regrettable. It is a season for the

at all."

The failure of all joyful observances of this day would be regrettable. It is a season for the reunion of friends and relatives, and good will towards all should reign supreme.

ARABIAN WEDDINGS.

Written for COMFORT.



her, carries her on horseback to her father's tent.

While she may not dislike her lover, she is expected to resist capture with all herstrength; and her struggles, bites and scratches are supposed not only to prove his courage, but to commend her to the admiration of her friends.

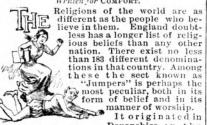
At the tent she is dressed in her wedding costume, placed upon a camel and escorted to her future home. Her face is covered with a heavy well, and it is considered the correct thing for her to weep and sob loudly and bitterly. As her features are hidden from view it is possible that there is more noise than grief.

Marriages with widows are believed to be unlucky, and are attended with but little rejocing. Divorce is an easy matter, and no discredit is attached to it. The process is simple. The husband has only to say in the presence of a witness, "Thou art divorced," and the affair is settled.

If the couple choose, they can be reunited. The wife has also the chance of freeing herself and husband from matrimonial bonds. If she is unhappy she can return to her father's house, and the husband cannot reclaim her.

THE JUMPERS.

Written for COMFORT.



than 183 different denominations in that country. Among the set he seet known as "Jumpers" is perhaps the most peculiar, both in its form of belief and in its manner of worship.

It originated in Devonshire in the early part of the present century. Joanna Southscott was its founder. The doctrine is grounded in the belief that the devil is everywhere and always present, and that it is the duty of every Christian to jump upon him. Of course the higher the jump the more forcible the descent, so the worshippers jump as high as possible in orderto come down heavily upon their enemy, Satan.

Chapels were built, and without uttering a word, the Jumpers jumped upon the devil to their hearts' content. This sect has not entirely disappeared, although not so numerous

as formerly.

Among the other strange and curious names given to the different sects are the following:

"The Peculiar People," who trust in Providence to cure them of all ills.

Then there are the "Quakers" and the "Shakers," whose religions and whose customs have found a place in the United States.

The "Secularists" believe that the affairs of this world should be thought of before those of the next, and that religion should not pretend to a monopoly of what is good and moral.

However peculiar the names of these different sects, or however amusing their customs, there is generally found a sense of reverence, a genuine sincerity and purpose of right doing among them.

SHORT BUT SWEET.

Mrs. W. Leslie Collins of Frankfort, Kentucky.

Mrs. W. Leslie Collins of Frankfort, Kentucky.

Mrs. W. Leslie Collins of Frankfort, Kentucky, writes to the publishers of Comport under date of December 5th: "Your check for Twenty dollars received. Many thanks. I am pleased that my story, "That Night," received one of the Nutshell Story Club prizes, and I consequently feel an increased in creast in Comport, and hope to manifest that interest in a substantial manner."

FACTS ABOUT SMUGGLING.

Written for COMFORT.



APPRAISER of U. S. Customs was asked by the editor of a re-ligious journal the other day to write what he knew about smuggling.

what he knew about smuggling.
"I never was a smuggler myself," replied the official, "and at this moment I can recall but one instanceof smuggling that came under my own observation. A returning missionary from Turkey had among his effects a beautiful inlaid riffe and a sword of Damand a sword of Damascus steel, and when the dutiable articles were discovered he tried to palm

them off as tools of his trade." At the custom

At the custom house persons of all creeds and degrees meet with but one code of morality, withbut one fixed purpose-to beat the government if they can.

A common trick is to fill a packing case with fig paste or some fruit delicacy. There is a false bottom and beneath it are secreted paintings of great value. Sometimes a cheap lithograph is imported in a frame, while between the picture and the thin board back there will be \$1000 worth of works of art in cils and water colors.

Another way is by the importation of volumes over 20 years old which are received free of duty, although in the covers are hidden steel engravings and etchings upon which the duty would be hundreds of dollers.

Old and antique pieces at the second of the possible of the second of the sec

Old and antique pieces of furniture are also entered

in the covers are hidden steel engravings and etchings upon which the duty would be hundreds of dollars.

Old and antique pieces of furniture are also entered free but they are seized when the inspectors find in secret drawers silver, bronze and ivory carvings of rare workmanship and costly materials.

The smugglers sometimes pack jewelry and precicous stones in small boxes which are put in the middle of bags of beans. It is not practicable to empty every bag so the inspectors run them through with sharp iron rods or "tryers."

A case marked "olives" was recently received at an American port. It contain four scaled tins, one really containing olives and the other three packed with many thousand dollars worth of jewels and silverware. There are other methods of smuggling merchandise but the false bottom is oftenest used as it cannot be detected except by an experienced eye.

But a great deal of smuggling is done by tourists and professional travellers who do not go near the custom house. They often conceal with great care in their soiled clothing dozens of pair of kid gloves and rare laces worth a small fortune. The ladies sew valuable dress patterns under their skirts and secrete about their persons diamonds and other jewelry. They walk ashore in furseven in the hottest July weather and sometimes wear two scalskin sacques, cleverly basted together.

One woman had several hundred dollars worth of ostrich plumes in the sleeves of her dress. She feared to bend her arms lest she should break the feathers and her stiff attitude led to her discovery.

A man who had his pockets filled with gold watches carelessly left the cases in his trunk. Following this clue the inspectors sound the watches.

Many valuable dresses are brought in by bogus actresses or by dressmakers employees who pose as society women. The discovery is funny when a gown claimed by a lady passenger is found to be eight inches smaller than her bust measure.

The inspectors say that the most smuggling is done by society people who could well afford to

FLOATING MOUNTAINS.

Copyright, 1893, by the Publishers of Comfort.



ICEBERG is one of the most picturesque and dangerous objects encountered by the mariners. Rising from the sealike a mount of the mariners. from the scalike a mount in of crystal, with shining peaks and dark blue cliffs, they charm the eye with their beauty; but the experienced seam and dreads the possibility of a collision with their stonelike solidity, knowing that it means the almost certain destruction of ship and passengers. mount in tal, with

most certain destruction of ship and passengers.

The story of their formation is one of interest. In the polar regions snow and ice form in ravines and gorges, and these masses move constantly toward a lower level.

The advance of this body of frozen water is hardly perceptible, but it makes its way to the sea, where the end, by the undermining action of the water, is broken off from the glacier and drifts into the ocean—an iceberg.

These great fragments, often miles in extent, drift about with the currents, bearing with them rocks and patches of frozen soil, and sometimes a passener or two in the shape of a polar bear or Arctic fox.

Cases are known of shipwrecked sailors living on them for months and being rescued.

Their immense height can only be imagined. From the surface of the water they rise many hundred feet in the air, and it is known that only about one-eighth of their height can be seen. They have been found stranded, fast aground in water two thousand feet deep.

Greenland is the home of these floating mountains.

feet deep.
Greenland is the home of these floating mountains.
A few form in the Antartic region but these are not

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J. D. MITCHELL, M. D., Hornellsville, N. Y.



EDITOR'S NOTE. The following rules govern the publication of all matter in this department.

publication of all matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular subscribers to Comfort, and every contribution must bear the vriter's own name and post office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may exceed the latter limit. Contributors must write on one side of their paper only.

Every month a number of prize monograms composed of the writer's initials, will be awarded to those sending the best contributions. These monograms, which will be most desirable ornaments for stationery, cards, etc., will be printed in connection with the respective letters, and new electrotypes of same will be mailed, post paid, to the prize winners.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

JANUARY PRIZE WINNERS.

Lilla W. Sickler. Nettie J.Ziegler, L. R. McLeod, F. W. Barker,

Miss A. S. Swift, Miss Stella. M. Clanton, Joseph Newby, H. Ballantyne, Jr. J. Ranson Plank, Will Ray, S. J. Fuller. George W. Williams.

EAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES:

It has been about three and a half years since I began to make your acquaintance, and still you come as at first with your letters as bright and cheery as ever. And there is hardly a month passes in which I do not make the acquaintance of many, many new friends. The letters received this month are unusually interesting. Many I cannot publish now for lack of space. You who contribute to this column have as a rule minds and hearts which are not morbid and unambitious, but which move along good, sensible lines of thought and action. Some one has said that a willing heart and a busy hand make a successful life. And this is true. Most of our troubles and difficulties can be traced either to hearts which are untrue to what we know to be best, or to hands that refuse to do the work appointed. I want to suggest that during this new year you all bear this thought which I have expressed in mind. Then read these letters, and you will find some ideas which may be just fitted to supply your needs.

"My home, Oak Alley, is in Bay St. Louis, Miss."

ply your needs.

"My home, Oak Alley, is in Bay St. Louis, Miss. This State takes a foremost rank both for its natural resources, and the genius of its soms. It is covered with gigantic pine trees, which are health-giving furnish valuable lumber, and keep the soil fertile. This village, which is situated on Mississippi Sound, a body of clear water over which continually blow the healthful and refreshing breezes of the Mexican guif, was founded by Iberville during his explorations of the guif of Mexico. Such is our sunny Mississippi, the favored land of heaven, blest with an equable temperature, fanned with sweet-scented breezes, our ears charmed by the magic spell of harmony gushing from the throats of a thousand songsters, our eyes feasted with exquisite colorings of Southern skies and verdant foliage. Can we help loving and praising our South-land?

S.H. Labidle."



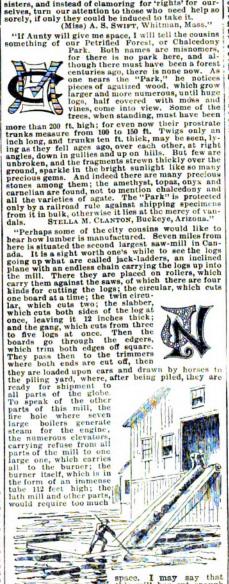
mony gushing from the throats of a thousand songfoothern skies and verdant foliage. Can we help
loving and praising our South-land?

"Some one has asked if I was in Java during the
eruption of 1833 which cost the Wes but we were
there that year, and sailed from
Anjeir just 12 days before the catasttrophe or such asked all the
inschief, had been in crupton for
two months, after a slience of over
and flame pouring out of the crater, and mingling,
with the caim beauty of the trond five wide, with a
The lindar in the centre, but the fland climax split it
completely in half. All level land sank beneath the
waves and now there only remain to be. Another
when of Theart-The-Way, that was exactly in the
centre of Sunda Strail, and covered with beautiful
verdure, also disappeared, leaving tell of many more
seven bare, lag by that eruption, together with the
centre of Sunda Strail, and covered with beautiful
verdure, also disappeared, leaving tell of many more
seven bare, lag by that eruption, together with the
centre of Sunda Strail, and covered with beautiful
verdure, also disappeared, leaving tell of many more
seven bare, lag by that eruption, together with the
centre of Sunda Strail, and covered with beautiful
verdure, also disappeared, leaving tell of many more
seven bare, lag by that eruption, together with the
centre of Sunda Strail, and covered with beautiful
verdure, also disappeared, leaving tell of many more
seven bare, lag by that eruption, together with the
carth-quake and tidal-wave which rolled over the town and
hills into the valley, and could not return. Now I
will take alse pfrom Java to Austern its original
little asing from Java

American women should rejoice that we are so much better off than our chocolate-skinned Australian sisters, and instead of clamoring for 'rights' for our-selves, turn our attention to those who need help so sorely, if only they could be induced to take it.

(Miss) A. S. Swift, Whitman, Mass."





space. I may say tha this mill has cut enough the mill has cut enough more and a half, which, i placed end to end, would reach a distance of over sixty miles.

JOSEPH NEWBY, Lovering, Ont. Can." end to end, would



tamily was large, and we had for neight family was large, and we had for neight was now. We invited them to join us in a few sames, to which they readily consented. Some level anumber of card games such as Old Maid, and the war of Words, Five Little Practice, and several sets of Tiddledy Winks, and Dominoes. One night a week (sometwo) we met alternately at the two houses, and played games, never tiring of them, being so interested that it was difficult for our parents to persuade us to refreshments, such as candy, nuts, fruit and lemounde were introduced, as a side issue and were discussed ith avidity. And now at the return the long evenings, though some of are parted by many a mile, our ry goes bac to the pleasant times we had at HALLANTYNE, Jr., Rockville, Ct."

priber halling from Pala, Cal. In the Pala signifies 'fire shovel,' uded on the north and south by variainly suggests the basin and by valley narrows to the east-opm an imaginary handle to this intend of holding fire, it carries before the Sun Luis Pay Jones. ad of holding fire, it carries on as the San Luis Rey from

ment, and is said in the In-water-devil, and you would as let loose, if you could see then swoolen by the winter W.

he to cross the river firing quick-sand. thing the Indian er, I had to keep nt of the river rismorning. I had up 'old Doll' for an Indian rode would not cross en g thought that he on the plains.

two miles above the school. Fortunately I had taken a large box of crackers to the school in case of an emergency, supposing I could get everything but bread. I busied myself until nightfall gathering wood. The country is covered with great oaks, and I found a number of dead and broken limbs, which with the aid of a hatchet soon gave me quite a wood-pile. With what dry wood I had in the house, I commenced drying the supply I had brought in. Of course I was drenched. If you want to know what fun it is to dry your clothes without removing them, just try it; it beats a Turkish bath all to pieces, as far as hot steam goes.

goes.

After a while I wearied of these diversions and then it began to get lonesome. I watched the clock and the fire, and wondered why the former went so slowly, and the latter burned out so fast. I had just climbed on the desk to get a better view of the time, when the door was suddenly opened, and there stood an Indian man. I was so glad to see some one that I forgot to be afraid, and was down from that desk in a second, shaking hands with my unknown visitor. He made me understand that he had seen the light that shone

seen the light that shone

forth from my fire, through the uncurtained window of my little room. I smile even now when I think how we kept company. We would look at the fire awhile, then at each other, and then we would augh; then we would et a cracker, drink water, and proceed as before. Finally a new thought struck him, and he made me understand that he wanted me to sing. I sang every lively song I could think of. Then he sang, and although I could not understand a word, the Spanish songs are the most melodious I ever heard. Then he whistled a lot of dance tunes, and kept time with his hands and feet; and when about ten o'clock he said 'Adios,' I was astonished to see how fast the time had flown.

In the morning the scholars brought a flour sack full of fresh green pens, and at noon we went to work with a will to see who could shell fastest and get the biggest pile. In the meantime the boys were spending their noon along the river with how and arrow. I had no idea what they were up to, but pretty soon they came in triumphantly offering the teacher a string of great tree-rats for carne (meat.) I was afraid for one awful instant that they might insist; but I am said to have a very expressive face, and I believe they read the horror depicted thereon—and oh my! how they did laugh!

Geronime Escoba took up the empty flour sack and indicated that he wished to go aeross the grant. He was soon on his broncho and out of sight. In about an hour he returned with a nice ham of kid. He had been over to a ranchieria where his compadre had a band of gonts, and had been so fortunate as to get me the nice roast.

In the evening an Indian brought me a nice clean tick made of flour sacks filled with hay. I got a bunch of shekes under the house for a pillow. I curled up on half of the mattress and used the other half for covers; and except that the mice would run ever my face and up my sleeve, my slumbers were penceful. In the nights that followed (I was there there weeks), I kept a supply of wood at the head of my hoad, and let fly at them, until either



"My home is in Gettysburg, Penn, situated on the historic ground where was fought the battle of Gettysburg—one of the most awful and bloody conflicts of modern times. The battlefield extends over an area of twenty-five square miles, diversided by hills and valleys. The Battlefield Association have constructed 24 miles of avenues along all the principal points for the use of visitors. There are about 400 momuments erected on the field by different Federal States in memory of the patriotic valor of their soldiers—578 of whom are unknown. This cemetery contains an area of 17 acres and is kept in repair by the the government. In it are many fine monument in process of crection, and the Naw York State monument in the process of crection in the process of crection in the process of crection in the process of nces of in-tle Round Den, Valle

eath, The Bloody Angle Jeade's Headquarters J. RANSON PLANK, and Culp's Hill. RANSON PLANK, Gettysburg, Pa."

"My home, Cleveland, is a beautiful city on Lake Erie. It is called Forest City on account of its numerous shade trees and green lawns. Euclid Avenue and Prospect St. are the two principal—residence streets, and many



pal- residence streets, and many of the handsomest houses in the State are built here, Steamers go out on the lake nearly every day of sum-

the lake nearly every day of summer on excursions to Put-In-Bay where Commodore Oliver H. Perry, the hero of the lakes, lies buried.

Our public square is divided into four parts. On one square facing the lake is Perry's monument. Sept. 10 was the seventy-ninth anniversary of the Battle of Lake Erie, the monument being covered with flags and flowers. One of its sides bears the inscription 'Don't give up the ship.' On the square opposite is a bronze statue of Moses Cleveland, the founder of the city. On the third square near a fountain was an alligator, but it could not stand city air and had to be put in Wade Park. This park was donated to the city wo one of our millionaires, J. A. Wade. They keep birds, foxes, alligators, bears, wild-cats, and most every kind of beast and birds in the United States. Not far from the park on a little hill is the Garfield Memorial, in which our martyred President and his mother lie buried. It is a very handsome monument costing \$100.000.

NETTIE J. ZIEGLER, Cleveland, Ohio."

"I am a Massachusetts city boy. To us that live in the Every with the Every is high mount.

"I am a Massachusetts city boy. To us that live in the Eastern cities, the broad prairies, high moun-

A GENTS Wanted. Life of Jay Gould free. Send 10 cts. in stamps. Lyceum Pub. Co., Grand Rapids, Mich.

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New 52 page price list, post free. Send for it.

GIRLS and Boys make Dollars selling Stewart's Hendache Powders contain Soda and Charcoal, Harmless. F. G. STEWART & CO., 360 Dearborn St., Chicago, III.

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able hints to Beauty and Loveliness. Tells young girls how to obtain a husband; married ladies how to retain their husband's love. Adress, MADAME M. YALE, Beauty Specialist, 146 State St., Chicago, Ill. 37 West 14th St., N.Y.

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Fun For The Boys.

All the above faces are person, and the wonder-tirely by our false mustand whiskers. For Prisminsterled States and whiskers with the fact of the part and the same ful changes are made entaches, beards, goates, wate Theatricals, Amateur rades, Tableaux, Parlor they are simply immensed for transformed so that even transformed so that even transformed so that even the art and to recognize transformed so that even he art and to recognize are all made material — genuine giving them a wavy ance. Can be intaches have wire atare secured with the fastened to, or rewith case. These last a lifetime, and cents every boy can have his own circus.

Mustaches and goatees, — gray, red, light, medium, or dark brown and black, price 7 cents each, four for 15 cents, or 60 cents per dozen. Beards or Whiskers — white, gray, red, light, medium, or dark brown and black. Price, Full Beard 60 cents: Whiskers with Mustache, 60 cents; four of cither for \$2.00. Any of above goods mailed, pestpaid, on receipt of price. In ordering, send small lock of hair or state color desired. Address Morse & Co., Box 330, Augusta, Maine

kains, and grand scenery that some of the cousins write about seem very vague. Every day I am very busy. I am one of those creatures who are everywhere, and who are coording to some folks are a great nuisance, but the world would miss them very much, should they disappear. Can you guess what kind of a certain titis? Although this is not a very large city, it has over 45,000 inhabitants, and is growing all the time. The United States Armory is situated here, and employs many men making guns for the government. There is a commander and a company of soldiers on the grounds. Many people have declared that Springfield is one of the finest cities on the globe. There are none of the tenement house districts here, but many pretty dwellings which give it the name of "The City of Homes." The broad Connecticut flows past, and many railroads and thriving industries help to make it a business centre. Every one needs a vacation among the New Hampshire hills, on the farm of my uncle in Claremont. If you want to get plenty of good fresh air and exercise, you should go there. You will surely get both, especially the exercise. The hay-field is the best field for labor, and the pitch fork is the best muscle producer that I know of. While in N. H., it was my good fortune to visit the famous Corbin Park. This park was planned by Austin Corbin, a millionaire, and after purchasing 22,000 acres from the farmers of five towns, he put into it buffalo, elk, moose, wild swine, deer, etc., thus making it a great breeding-place for the animals that are fast being exterminated by the progress of civilization. The buffaloes were especially interesting, as they are the only herd save one in the country.

"It think I have found a subject of general interest, and one worthy of the best thought of all the cousins. Well, what is it? Simply this-Gossip. George

were especially interesting, as they are the only herd save one in the country.

"If think I have found a subject of general interest, and one worthy of the best thought of all the cousins. Well, what is it? Simply this—Gossip. George Elliot says that gossip is a kind of smoke that comes from the dirty tobacco-pipes of those who diffuse it; it proves nothing but the bad taste of the smoker. Very true! Gossip in most any form is bad. We are all prone to indulge in it, and often we do not stop to think what the consequences may be. If those people, gossipers, spent as much time and vital force in acquiring useful and ornamental knowledge as they spend in gaining information concerning people's trivial, personal matters, it is astonishing how immensely wise and learned they would soon become. Why is it that so many people delight in gossiping? Is it a sign of superiority or empty head? I am inclined to think that it is an indication of a small and empty mind. What people talk about is, in a certain sense, a test of their education and character. High-bred, educated people talk of principles and things. Low-bred, ignorant people cannot talk about anything but the personal matters of other individuals. A craving desire to gain information concerning the affairs of other people is a sure sign of ignorance and bad taste. Who can estimate the harm done by a thoughtless person in telling an innocent bit of gossip? It is like the tiny stream away up in the mountain, but as it gushed its downward way and is strengthened by other streams, it soon becomes a mighty, roaring thing of dread and fear.

So with the innocent bit of gossip! Oh! let us be careful not to start any on its perilous journey through a human life. What earthly good does it do a person to know all the private matters of another? Does it make the mappier, wiser, richer? Does it make the mappier, wiser, richer? Does it make the mountain, but as it gushed its downward way and is strengthened by other streams, it soon becomes a mighty, roaring thing of dread

mud?

'Look at the roses saluting each other,
Look at the herds all at peace on the plain—
Man, and man only makes war on his brother,
And laughs in his heart at his peril and pain,
Shamed by the beasts that go down on the plain.

Is it worth while that we jostle a brother,
Bearing his load on the rough road of life?
Is it worth while that we jeer at each other,
In the blackness of heart? That we war to the knife?
God pity us all in our pitiful strife.

God pity us all in our pitiful strife.'

Cousins, let us remember Jas. 3: 5-8.

'Oh could there in this world be found,
Some little spot of happy ground,
Without the village tattling,
How doubly blest that spot would be,
Where all might dwell in liberty,
Free from the bitter misery,
Of gossip's endless prattling!
Oh that the mischlef making crew,
Were all reduced to one or two,
And they were painted red or blue,
That every one might know them!'
L. R. McLEOD, Penn Yan, N. Y."

That every one might know them!'

L. R. McLeod, Penn Yan, N. Y."

"I am an Oregon school teacher 19 years of age. When the last number of Comport arrived, I at once seated myself in a comfortable position and turned to the 'Chats' corner, to read the interesting things always to be found there. Southwestern Oregon has but little scenery, unless forests stretching away for miles can be said to be that. Coo's county exports consist principally of lumber, coal, fish and fruit. In the fall the salmon ascend the smaller streams for the purpose of depositing their eggs. This is when the small boy has his picule. Armed with a spear, with trousers rolled up to the knees, he will wade along the stream for miles spearing each unlucky fish that happens to come in his way. Of course mishaps, such as slipping into a hole in the bed of the river, or falling on the slippery rocks are of frequent occurrence, but they only add zest to the sport. I was much amused at Oblivion's graphic description of the scenes of her childhood. Oh what memories come surging through our minds at the mere mention of some childish escapade! How well I remember the time when my younger brother and I tried to ride the long-suffering old dog across the foot-log by which a small stream was crossed. And how, when about halfway across, he saw a squirrel on the other



end and leaped from under us, with results which may be better imagined than described. And also one evening when the moon was just rising over the hill, and the frogs were making music in the neighboring swamp, we were startled by hearing an awful shrick from the woods near by, which our childish minds were sure could be made only by a panther, or some other wild beast. But how disappointed we were when told that we had made our first acquaintance with a screech-owl!

F. W. BARKER, Fairview, Ore."

"In some of the recent numbers of COMFORT, I notice inquiries regarding the whereabouts of some of the more ancient contributors to your department, accompanied with the intimation that they come forward to the footlights and show themselves. So here I am, cousins, to report that Pedagogue is still alive—thank the good Lord!—and is still an interested reader of 'Chats.' And now, Auntle, as there seems to be no special subjects up before the cousins, on which I care to write, perhaps a brief description of



our cyclone last June would be as interesting as anything. It was on the libth day of the month which was a hot began to gather along it he whole extent of the northern horizon. It came began to gather along it he whole extent of the northern horizon. It came was along the whole extent of the northern horizon. It came was along the whole extent of the northern horizon. It came was along the whole extent of the northern horizon and the storm advanced, the mutterings of thunder black masses of clouds flaton ateady roar as the storm as asses of clouds flaton ateady roar as the storm as asses of clouds as it came half and rain, while a few miles to the northwest mow as I looked to the northwest, I saw that the huge white wind-cloud that preceded the main storm as a vanguard, was in a great commotion, and some parts of it that had already passed over came closely we watched that surging mass of clouds as it came nearer and nearer to us, before we could ascertain that it was really an awful cyclone! But fearthing the weak of the cyclone was of the string of the family we could see the whole form of the monster distinctly outlined. The storm-cloud in the back such intense inky blackness as of the cyclone was of such intense inky blackness as of the cyclone was of such intense inky blackness as of the cyclone was of such intense inky blackness as of the cyclone was of the clouds, while its tall was lasting, its head among the clouds, while its tall was lasting, its head among the clouds, while its tall was lasting, its head among the clouds, while its tall was lasting, its head among the clouds, while its tall was lasting, its head among the clouds, while its tall was lasting, its head among the clouds, while its passed on to the northeast and disappeared from view. The rain now poured in torrents, night came on and I knew not until the next of the property of the black black and the passed on the northeast and disappeared from view. The rain now poured in torrents, night came on any black and the passed on the northea

WORLD'S FAIR FACTS.

The man who is to sell pop corn at the World's Fair has paid \$60,000 for the privilege.

Applications have been made for space in the Manufactories Building of the World's Fair for more than five times the room in the building.

The American Indian is to be given considerable space in the World's Fair, and his progress since the time of Columbus is to be fully illustrated.

Two thousand Japanese are to be sent by their gov ernment to visit the World's Fair and afterward to visit the principal cities of the new world.

The general color of the World's Fair buildings is a pale ivory. In some of the buildings there will be some modification of this however. The effect will be beautiful and brilliant.

The privilege of selling peanuts at the World's Fair in Chicago has been sold for seventy per cent of the gross receipts. It is estimated that the receipts will be nearly or quite a quarter of a million of dollars.

HE STRUCK IT RICH. We mean the fellow that accepted the great offer being made by B.F.Johnson & Co., Richmond, Va. Their advertisement appears in another column.

LADIES LACE PINS FREE.

LADIES LACE PINS FREE.

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HIS LAST FRIEND.

BY HENRY B. MCKNIGHT.

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"We'll never forget the friends we've lost, Te ta, ta ta ta, ta ta ta."

Te ta, ta ta is, is ta is.

The quaint droning melody and the hopeless song that never got beyond the first line told that "Old Wade" was in town. On a high stool before an all-night lunch counter was a little old man, ragged and dirty, whose leather-like face was seamed and furrowed by the elements.

face was seamed and furrowed by the elements. In the year 1885 Coloradotown vaunted its absolute prohibition. But the druggists did a good business, nevertheless, and old Wade was a regular customer. He would come into town early in the day, buy his bottle of gin and after taking a dip of the cheap liquor, sit in front of the blacksmith shop or feed store to meditate and smoke. At intervals he would vanish into an alleyway to reappear in a few minutes with a bland smile on his face but as silent as before.

a bland smile on his face but as silent as before. There were often such long intervals between the old man's relaxations, and he was so harmless and so well known that he was allowed to make a night of it. The streets were very quie after 10 o'clock, and few besides the reporters who patronized the all-night lunch stand, ever saw Old Wade in the height of his exuberance.

After midnight the oft-repeated song became less and less distinct until it gradually died away. Finally the singer, leaving his lunch unfinished, would slide from his stool and start for home.

oses and suon garden-truck as would grow at the ultitude.

This was more out of respect to the land office than for any money there might be in the produce. The make-belive farming served its purpose and Old Wade had obtained a government patent to his land. In the winter he hunted bears and deer and in the summer he got an occasional job guiding camping parties into the woods and "packing" on Billy their previsions and tents.

Yet the old man, so few were his wants, seemed independent and happy and the years brought no change in his appearance or habits.

There is a saying among the mountaineers of the Rockles, that a "burro" never dies. A burro—which is a Mexican donkey—will live where a horse would starve.

There is one thing that nature has not provided against, even for the burro, and that is old age. Billy, the one friend his master had not lost, was weighed down with years. From a glossy black his coat had changed to a rusty brown, his head was gray and grizaled and his teeth were almost useless. He struggled heroically to retain his strength and cropped the scanty grass near the creek which seemed less tough and wirey than that growing on It was no use.

seemed less tough and wirey than that growing out the dryer land.

It was no use.

One day, when wading into the creek to drink, his weak knees trembled and gave way. He fell in the icy water and could not rise.

It was several days after Billy had found his last resting place in the bed of the creek that Wade, preparing for a trip to town, came upon his dead body. Sitting down upon the bank the old man buried his fingers in his straggling gray hair and gave himself up to his grief.

He had lost his last friend.

For the first time he felt the desolation and loneliness of the wild canon.

Broken in spirit, grown older and more bent, he started alone on his tramp to town. He had not the heart to drag his dead friend from the water or to make another visit to his cabin. It was only a lean old burrot that he had lost but its death filled him with grief and loneliness. In rags and without a penny in his pocket he blindly resolved never to return to his mountain home. He was almost ashamed to go into town and when he walked up the street he felt as if every one were looking at him and asking what he had done with Billy.

Old Wade clung doggedly to his purpose never to return. He would sell his claim and live with other men away from the dreary loneliness of the canon. The sale was easy, for a land dealer had long wanted the place.

With \$400 in his ragged pocket Old Wade sat once

The sale was easy, for a lind deaso. the place.
With \$400 in his ragged pocket Old Wade sat once more by the blacksmithtshop and smoked in the eternal sunshine. Twice he started for the drugstore, but a strange superstition held him back. The death of the donkey seemed to him a warning of his own and. With death so close to him, he did not days to drink.

store, but a strange superstition held him back. The death of the donkey seemed to him a warning of his own end. With death so close to him, he did not dare to dfink.

In the evening when the blacksmith, Dan Hatch, went to his boarding house Old Wade went too and was given a room and a place at the table with the sthers. Midnight found him again before the lunch counter on his accustomed stool. But in his sober senses the place seemed cheap and miserable. He did not go there afterwards.

He was like a man burdened with a thought from which he could not escape. He tried to tinker round the blacksmith shop and sometimes he would lend and at the feed-store but such occupations grewirksome for he found no comradeship, no friends. One day he passed the school-house while the children were at play and stood watching them with a strange flush on his weatherbeaten face. But his clothes were old and torn and he looked to the boys such a queer little man that they laughed in his face. Wade knew why they laughed and turned away sadly but the next day in an entire new suit he applied to the junitor for work. He did not care for pay but said that he wanted something to do and to be near the children.

Then the old man found friends. The school children took him into their hearts. They were sorry that he looked so troubled but they did not ask him what his trouble was. They asked him where his

children were and he promised to tell them but put it off from day to day.

It was a month after Old Wade became assistant planitor of the Coloradotown school that the children woke to find the dark mountains covered with snow. That day their gentle old friend did not come to school. He did not come the next day either and the people at his boarding house said he had disappeared. In former days that would have been the end of it. It was only Old Wade. But now for the sake of the children who loved him, a searching party was sent out. As if by instinct they found the tracks leading to the mouth of the canon and followed them to where the gorge widened and became a rock-bound valley.

There comes an account of a brave fireman who sloved the runaway train when brakemen and ensured the results of the canon and followed them to where the gorge widened and became a rock-bound valley.

where the gorge widened and became a rock-bound valley.

Old Wade lay dying in the cabin that he had sold. He did not recognize Dan the blacksmith or the other searchers. He did not know that he himself was a trespasser. He had forgotten the long walk through the newly fallen snow.

"We'll ne'er forget the friends we've lost," he moaned drearily. Then the sunlight seemed to break through the snowclouds and he murmured, "Pretty dears, daddy's coming, are ye glad to see him?"

So Wade's heart broke, and he died.

The children helped bury him in the barren cemetry on the mesa and they buried with him the mysterious story of his past all unknown except for the sad key-note given by his one song.

Women as "Newspaper Men."



Transit Commissioners.

It is obvious, therefore, that the woman who wishes to adopt journalism as a profession should have. In the first place, she must have a good education. She must be able to think quickly and express her thoughts in graceful, well-chosen language. Does some one object that newspaper Emplant of the ladder and do only the least interesting and important work. Is a distinguished woman to be interestivened? Will not the person who is known to have subject and treat it in seed to monplace subject and treat it in seed to monplace subject and reserved the place and and the subject and treat it in seed to monplace subject and reserved to ples of the day instinct with the new life of her own keen observation, is the person who is known to have subject and treat it in seed to monplace subject

There comes an account of a brave fireman who alone stopped a runaway train when brakemen and engineer jumped for their lives. It is with pleasure that we chronicle the following:

A through freight on the Central Railroad of New Jersey broke from control Tuesday night between Penobscot and Coalport during a violent storm and dashed down the mountain side at a frightful rate of speed.

Penobscot and Coalport during a violent storm and dashed down the mountain side at a frightful rate of speed.

A heavy grade begins at Penobscot and continues for 50 miles to Coalport.

Slowly the train started down, the engineer, on account of the extra long train and being behind time, delaying to whistle down brakes until the cars had gathered considerable headway.

Huddled in the caboose, the brakemen anxiously awaited the summons, and when the shrill whistle sounded, each sprang for his post, but the hurricane and the slippery condition of the cars compelled them to crawl on hands and knees, clinging to the sides of the walk to hold themselves on.

The train was gaining impetus as each telegraph post was passed, and the heavy load added to the heavy grade, sent the cars along at such a speed that the brakemen found it impossible to check its progress, for the wheels, even when held by the brakes, slipped over the wet rails.

Almost before they realized it twenty miles had been passed and the train was rushing along at the rate of seventy miles an hour. Thirty miles away, in the yards at Coalport station, they were to switch to allow a passenger train to go by.

Every minute the train was gaining speed and seeing nothing but death before them if they stayed on, they risked their lives by jumping. The engineer, too, unable to put on the breaks, gave the word to fireman Jim Collins and sprang to the ground.

But Collins resolved to stop the train or die in the tempth, He first reversed the engine and opened the sand cheet. Then, climbing on his hands and knees over the tender, he crawled over the cars one by one as fast as he could, putting on the brakes, Just as he distinguished the lights of Coalport in the distance, he felt the train slowed down but did not stop until it had run to Tannery, two miles past Coalport.

ang one more brake he fell in a taint on the top of a car.

Gradually the train slowed down but did not stop until it had run to Tannery, two miles past Coalport. There some yard hands, seeing something was wrong, leaped aboard and stopped the engine.

Collins was lowered to the ground and revived. He is still affected by his terrible experience, but is consoled by the thought that his heroic act saved scores of lives.

An Australian Danger.

he could not have been saved.

Australia is surely a strange and marvelous country.

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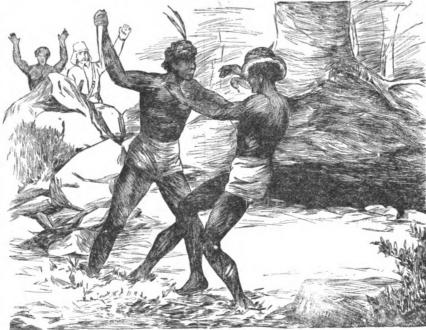
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AN AUSTRALIAN DANGER.

to these a good education and facility in expression and any young woman so equipped may confidently enter journalism.

The presence of women in the newspaper office has caused some change in the interior arrangements. It is the impulse of men, in our country at least, to regard the comfort of women; so now the large offices have cosy little rooms separate from the reporter's room, where two or three women have their desks,



BY SALLIE JOY WHITE.

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I THINK I promised you last time, did I not, to tell you how to make some pretty ribbon girdles?

With Miss Littlehale to help me with her dainty pictures, I am going to keep myprom-

These girdles may be made of velvet ribbon to wear with dark dresses, or of nice gros grain ribbon for the gowns of light color and delicate material.

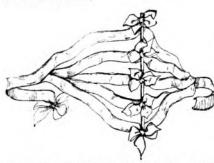
The first thing to do is to get a stiff whalebone or steel, such as is used for the side of corsets, and cut it about six inches in length. Cover it smoothly with the rib-bon. At the top and bottom fasten ribbons to go about the waist. Then use three more ribbons for the space

between. Where the ribbons are fastened to the one, have rosettes or butterfly bows, to cover the stitches. Fasten the girdle at the back, under a rosette without ends, or a bow with two upstanding loops, long drooping loops and ends.

This is very simple, very easily made, and at the same time it is a beautiful finish for a dress. If you like you may have a band of the same ribbon around the neck of the dress, fastened on the left side with a butterfly bow.

butterfly bow.

It is surprising how much little things of this kind add to a dress. They really change the whole appearance of it. Girls always like to have them, and it often happens they either live out of the reach of them, or cannot afford to buy them ready made. But when one knows how to make them for herself, then she is independent of city shops, and has learned a new lesson in economy.



This is the season for all sorts of social gayeties, digust the time when dainty things like these are

and just the time when dainty things like these are needed.

I saw a girdle the other day, that a clever young woman had made for herself. She had taken the brass rings that are so much used for fancy work, and had covered them with black Florence silk in crochet, and sewed them together in the shape of a girdle with pointed front, but straight, like a belt in the back. It had taken time and patience, but she had accomplished the task.

Another pretty fashion, and one that is in the direct interest of economy, is the fancy for pretty, jaunty sleeveless jackets to wear with any gown. These jackets so metimes fasten at the throat, then fall away, but most of them are rounded in front, or have pointed revers.

front, or have pointed revers. In either case they do not reach the waist

line, and are straight across the back.

The most ele-gant and expen-

The most elegant and expensive of these ejackets come in beaded passementerie, but those are for very elegant dresses, for very formal occasions. Very pretty ones may be made at home of velvet, silk, satin or cloth. A young girl showed me not long since, such a pretty dress she had made for herself, out of the contents of an old trunk. Packed away for years, I don't believe the owner could tell how many, had been a plaid silk dress, worn when voluminous skirts were the fashion, and one of the old time broadcloth cloaks that men used to wear a century or more ago, and that have as much material in them as is used for a woolen gown.

She had been watching all the novelties that were offered in the leading shops, for she happened to be on a visit to friends in the city while the fall openings were on, and she saw the plaid blouses I told you about last month, and she saw the pretty plaid and colored petiticoats, and her thoughts flew back to Northern New York and a trunk of discarded finery in the attic.

When she went home she set to work to get a styl-

ish new winter gown. She found that in the full skirt of the old dress she had enough, by using great economy in cutting, to make a petiticoat and ablouse. She could only have one ruffle on the petiticoat, and that was not very wide, but she bought some black velvet above the ruffle. Then she made a blouse of the rest of the silk, having full silk sleeves to the elbow, with a cuff of velvet. This made a handsome finish, and no one ever discovered that it was done because the silk wouldn't quite meet the requirements. The dress skirt was cut from the black broadcloth cloak, and was in the new bell shape, the stilk in the stilk in the stilk of the stilk in the still in the stilk in the still in the stilk in the still in the stilk in the still in the s



ower a century or more ago, and that men used no wear a century or more ago, and that have as much material in them as is used for a woolen gown.

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When she went home she set to work to get a styl-

thoughtlessness, are preventing him from seeing.

Clearly you are infringing upon a human right, and you are committing a wrong. So many ladies remove their hats now, that you will not be conspicuous, and you will gain the gratitude of those who are back of you.

It is coming to be that Fashion obeys public opinion, and if every one of Comport's girls and women help to form public opinion in this direction, they will do a much needed work, and be comforts, indeed. Next month I shall have something to say to the mothers, and the elder women.

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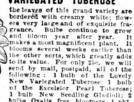
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Dexter Pices Catch Our shoes delived what you want you wa



Copyright, 1892, by COMPORT. HAT is it that I hear some of you say?

assertion, and I am sure you will change your

You don't believe economy can be made tempting?

Just wait a little before you make such an

We have gotten over our Festival, the Christmas dinner has been cooked, eaten, and let us hope well digested, and now we are starting out on a New Year of endeavor. How earnestly I hope that to every one it will be a year of happiness, a year full of achieve-

To many young couples this will be the trial year. The first year of married life, when they are becoming adapted to their new relation and are learning to know one another. Heretofore, under the glamour of partship, they have seen each other only when they have been on their best behavior, and it has been the cicals of one another with which they have been in

Now comes the test. If they are sensible and have the true love which every man and woman should have who decide to make their life paths join, they will pass the ordeal safely and their affection will grow stronger with every day.

But there must be patience on both sides, mutual forbearance, a respect for each others opinions, even when they differ, and an united effort toward making home happy, and bullding for a future independence. In regulating the expenses for the household, decide what sum you can use, and then see that you keep inside it. Pay for everything as you buy it, and do not be caught in the snare of grocer's or butcher's books. It may seem easy. It is too easy, that is until you come to have the bill to pay; then it will be hard enough. You have no idea how your expenses will run away with you. I learned this lesson the very first six months of my housekeeping, and I have never forgotten it. I did not repeat the experiment I assure you.

THE WIFE THE HOMEMAKER.

As the wife is the homemaker, and is responsible for her little kingdom, she should be allowed to manage it for herself, and without interference. The husband should place in her hands every week or every month, as his salary is paid to him, the amount hey have decided after careful consideration they can use in housekeeping, with an additional sum, as much as he feels he can spare, for her own personal use, or for emergencies. As a rule, it is quite as safe in her hands as in his, particularly if she has been brought up in a thritty household, or has earned her own money. In either case she has learned its value, and will expend it carefully. Generally speaking, where a young couple run beyond their means, it is when the newly made husband neglects to tell his wife frankly what he can afford. If he keeps her in the dark about his money affairs and treats her like a child, he has no right to complain if she behaves like one. If he is not truthful and frank how can he expect consideration?

Here is one of the phases of partnership of which I booke in last month's "Chats." The husband is the wage earner, the wife is the one who puts the money sarned to its best uses and does the most and best the can with it.

THE REASON WHY.

THE REASON WHY.

And this brings us back to that despised word "economy." The reason why this word is regarded with such contempt and dislike is because its meaning is so often perverted.

It does not imply meanness nor stinginess; it is, in domestic life, the synonym of "thrift," It means just what I said above, doing the most and the best with what you have to do with. Is there anything "despicable" in that?

I have been very much amused at the way many writers on domestic topics, who have more theory whan experience, advise young couples how to live within a certain income. They make a set of rigid cast iron rules, and put them together so fancifully that on the surface they seem very sensible and attractive. But only try to live up to them, and you very soon find how impracticable they are. There can be no set rules. Markets vary so in different localities, and prices are so clastic. What is an every day commodity in one locality, is a luxury in another. So the best advice is, keep the run of the markets about you, and adapt your purchases to your purse. But don't go in debt, unless compelled by sickness and learn that carefulness and thoughtfulness are your best helpers. And above all have confidence in each other, and help one another over the hard places.

Does all that sound like a sermon? Well, I am

Does all that sound like a sermon? Well, I am only talking out of my own experience, and telling COMPORT'S family of women, just what I wish some one could have told me. It would have been a great help, and have smoothed many a rough place. I am sure that the majority of COMPORT'S mothers will quite agree with me in what I have said.

"LEFT OVERS."

Ibelieve I told you that I would give you some nice ways of making over dishes did I not? In other words I would tell you what to do with "left overs," If we were giving the French names to things we would call these dishes "rechauffes," which after all is only a disguise for "warmed over." Just what it means you see.

A great warm.

would call these dishes "rechaufies," which after all so only a disguise for "warmed over." Just what it means you see.

A great many persons affect to despise warmed over food. Well, if the warming over process is like some know I don't wonder. There are so few persons who know how to serve a dish a second time so that it shall be appetizing. It is so palpably a make-affe that those who are to eat it lose their appetites in looking at it. But a little more care, a little more attention to detail, and what a different result.

Suppose, for instance, you had a roast of beef for dinner, and you have quite a piece left. What will you do with it? If your family like it cold, you may serve it that that way for another dinner, prefacing it with a tomato or a potato soup, and having two rectables with it. Now don't do, what I have seen some housekeepers do, put it on just as it went off the table the day before. It is too suggestive of "funeral baked meats," and your dainty economy and housewifely thrift, becomes carelessness and savors too much of the "saving" endeavor.

Out the meat into thin even slices, and arrange hem neatly on a platter. If you have a little parsley, or some nasturtium or geranium leaves, you can add some for garnish, and to make your dish look pretier. By serving your meat this way you make it tempting to the appetite, and do not parade your conomical processes.

But suppose you do not like to serve it cold. Here is a nice way of having it hot. Cut your meat in even slices, a trifle thicker than if you were to serve it cold, but still so it will not be thick. Have some butter, perhaps a teaspoonful melted in a saucepan, and just heat the slices in it on both sides, taking only two or three minutes for it. Then put the slices only two or three minutes for it. Then put the slices only two or three minutes for it. Then put the slices only a warm but not dry. If you have any gravy left, warm that over, and add to it, either a cup of stewed tomatoes, or two tablespoonfuls of Worcestershire sauce, or if you like them, half a can of mushrooms. As soon as this is well heated pour it over the slices of meat and serve at once. If the gravy, or "sauce" as it is properly called, needs additional seasoning, such as salt or pepper, you will add it to suit the taste, before pouring it over the meat.

This is a much more satisfactory process than the usual one of warming the meat in the gravy. That tends to toughen it. No matter how tender a piece of meat may be, there is no more effectual way of making it like India rubber than by letting it simmer ten minutes in its gravy.

NEW WAYS.

NEW WAYS.

NEW WAYS.

Very often old housekeepers will cavil over some of the new ways of doing things and will talk of them as "nonsensical," but that is because they have never stopped to consider the reason of things. When they do they are very likely to adopt them. At any event they cease opposing them and that is a long step in the right direction.

After the nice slices are cut off there are apt to be pleces that will not do to serve cold or in the way just mentioned, and yet that cannot be thrown away. There usually are, both to roast beef and beef steak, some tough bits that need special treatment. These I would advise you to make into an "Exeter Stew." You will find this both nutritious and palatable. Cut your meat into inch pleces. Take all the bits of fat, cut them very fine and fry them in a saucepan. When they are well browned and crisped, add a tablespoonful of chopped onion; into this seasoned fat, while it is hot and bubbling, stir a table-spoonful of flour, mix it well with the fat, and when it is brown add a cupful of boiling water, a table-spoonful of vinegar, as much cayenne pepper as you can take on the point of a penknife, salt to taste, and about a quarter of a saltspoonful of pepper. This makes enough sauce for a cupful of the meat dice. If you have more than that you must increase your sauce in proportion. Put the meat into this sauce, and simmer slowly for two hours. You can use raw beef for this stew, taking the tough parts of the roundor shoulder. Two pounds of uncooked meat, for which you will pay seven or eight cents a pound, will make a stew sufficient for a family of five or six persons.

will make a stew sufficient for a lathily of live of stapersons.

This receipt, which I have come to value highly, is one that is taught in the Boston Public School Cooking classes. It was there that I learned it. I happened in to School Kitchen No. 1 to see Miss Hope, the teacher, one day when she was giving it as a lesson I was so interested that I stayed all the morning and watched the process. I had a taste of it all around—there were fifteen girls making it, each one over her own little gas stove—and I went home to make it for my family. It has been a standard dish with us ever since.

PUBLIC SCHOOL KITCHENS.

PUBLIC SCHOOL KITCHENS.

Some time I want to tell you more about the work of the Public School Kitchens, and I want you all to help educate public opinion so that it will demand that these kitchens be established everywhere, so that all girls may learn to be good cooks and careful housekeepers, as well as good scholars.

But to return to our "left overs."

What do you do with the bits of cold turkey that are left? If you have grown thred of always warming them over in their gravy you may vary the programme by making turkey croquettes or by making turkey grown the sound than I have time for now, so we will have that for some other time.

As for "Scalloped Turkey," I will not say anything about croquettes now as I want to talk more about them than I have time for now, so we will have that for some other time.

As for "Scalloped Turkey" it is a simple and a most delicious dish. It is so easily prepared that it should be seen on the family table oftener than it is.

Cut the meat from the bones of the turkey that was partially eaten at yesterday's dinner, remove the skin and bits of gristle, and chop the rest up very fine. Put in the bottom of a well buttered scallop dish a layer of fine cracker or dried bread crumbs; moisten slightly with milk that they may not absorb all the gravy to be put in afterward; then spread quite a thick layer of the minced turkey, with bits of stuffing, pepper, sail and small pieces of butter, another layer of crumbs wel with milk, and so on until the dish is nearly full, or turkey exhausted. Before putting on the topmost layer, which must be of crumbs, pour in the gravy left from the turkey, diluted with hot water—a very little—and season with Worrestershire sauce. Have your crumbs ready, mixed with melted butter to spread over the top. There should be just enough to spread smoothly on. Bake until the crumbs are a light brown.

DIET KITCHENS.

DIET KITCHENS.

One may learn a great many nice ways of doing things, as well as a great many economies by visiting the Diet Kitchens in any of the cities, where nice soups are made for sick people. These are given to poor invalids who cannot afford to buy them, or they are sold to mothers with little children, who can afford to pay for them, at a merely nominal price. These kitchens are a great boon, not only to poor people, but to a large class who help sustain them by purchasing from them some of the things they cannot take the time, or have not the opportunity to make for themselves.

In the cities there are hundreds of working women who have rooms and either cook their own meals or board. These girls find that they can buy at the Diet Kitchens cooked food, soup, bread, cold meats, at very reasonable prices, and much better than they can get at a restaurant. These kitchens are carried on by a committee of ladies of wealth, who want to do some good work in a practical way, and they believe this is the best work they can do, for they claim that nothing humanizes as much as well cooked food, made from the best of materials. And they are right too. Many a working woman has broken down for lack of the kind of food that would sustain her, and give power both to brain and muscle. It is not half so much the quantity as it is the quality of what we eat that gives us strength or develops weekness. And so, with the Diet Kitchen as a text, I am going to tell you something about vegetable soups next time, and give you some idea of what you may do with the two simple staples, potatoes and corn. I think you will be surprised when you see how many forms they much proved the surprised when you see how many forms they much proved the surprised when you see how many forms they much proved the surprised when you see how many forms they much the quantity as I when you see how many forms they much many forms they much the quantity as I wanter them, and in how many forms they much many thought the proved the proved the proved the

Ladies with an Imperfect Skin should send 5 cents to Dr. H. A. Miner, Malden, Mass.

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WHALE FISHING.

Written for COMPORT.

EW interests have exerted a more marked influence upon the history of the United States than that of the fisheries.

the fisheries.

The pioneers of the sea, whale-

the fisherics.

The pioneers of the sea, whalemen, were the advance guard of civilisation. In the frozen seas of the north their keels ploughed to the north their keels ploughed to the extreme limit of navigation.

Holding their lives in their hands, nothing could daunt them, no thought of danger held them in chock. Danger from icebergs and the perils of being frozen into the Arctic ice-fields were among the possible hardships of the whale fishery began with the settle me n to five the whale fishery began with the settle me n to five b

to breathe, until he was tired out, and then does much to shore.

In 1726 the whalemen of Nantucket captured 86 whales near shore. The harpoon was the death-dealing instrument for many years. It was made of fron, about four feet in length, terminating at one end in a sharp barbed head, and at the other, in a socket for receiving the "fron pole," a heavy wooden handle of about equal length, which gives great momentum to the instrument. To this handle was attached a strong rope about two hundred fathoms long.

momentum to the instrument. To this handle was attached a strong rope about two hundred fathoms long.

In attacking the whale, the captain or one of his officers took the steering oar and directed the boat. The barpooner pulled a short oar in the bow of the boat, and at a signal from the officer drew in his oar, and took his stand firmly in the bow, and when the word was given threw the harpoon with all his strength into the whale. Sometimes he would be successful in fixing two irons in the struggling monster, securing its capture.

This was in the early days. A darting gun was afterwards invented, which requires as much strength and skill as was needed in using the old-fashioned harpoon. This gun consists of four principal parts, as shown in the illustration; the toggle-iron, the gun proper, the trigger and the pole. The toggle-iron is a slender, harbed spear of iron, about a yard long, with a ring near the end, to which the whaling line is fastened. The gun is loaded with an explosive bullet or bomb, and the trigger projects the end of the wooden pole, and the whole contrivance is thrown, spear-fashion, at the whale.

The sharp toggle iron penetrates until the trigger of the gun touches, when the gun is discharged and the explosive bomb buries itself deep in the monster's vitals. If the first bomb does not strike a vital spot another darting gun is quickly thrown.

For many years whale fishing has

bomb does not strike a vital spot another darting gun is quickly thrown.

For many years whale fishing has not been as successful as in carlier times. Longer voyages, greater risks as to securing a paying "catch," prevent business men from venturing their money in the whaling interests.

But its history is one of adventure, of wonderful voyages and hairbreadth escapes, and an interesting story of the rise, development and decline of an important industry.

"How the ladies' stays were made," gravely observes Anderson, the historian of Commerce, "before whale-bone was found out, does not appear; it is probable that split pieces of cane might have been in use." However this may be, whalebone speedily came to be universally employed in the making of corsets, and also of the hoop petitions, which came into fashion about the beginning of the last century, and Pope described the dress of that time as "Stiff with hoops and armed with ribs of whale." Fifty years ago whalebone was also largely used in the construction of umbrellas.

Whalebone is really not bone at all, but a formation resembling horn, and growing downward from the roof of the whale's mouth. Its purpose is to act as a sieve or strainer, allowing a whale to take a mouthful of water and then expel it, meanwhile retaining the fish, etc., which have entered. Only certain species have this whalebone, but some of them yield upwards of a ton of it.

Whale oil was at one time largely used in lamps and this added to the importance of successful whaling voyages. Since kerosene, gas and electricity have been discovered, its value for lighting purposes has greatly decreased. A certain portion of the returned oil is still valuable for oiling delicate machinery.



He—"Are you sure I am the only man you ever sally loved?" She—"Perfectly sure. I went over the hole list only yesterday."—New York Weekly.

ODDITIES.

In Philadelphia a society has been organized to en-

A man was arrested in London for owning a dog which had been trained to steal umbrellas.

Some new-coming immigrants in New York bought lot of old confederate bills with good Russian

A man died in Indiana the other day from the effect of a shoemaker's awl which he had swallowed over 30 years before. A patient at an insane asylum in Toronto, Canada, recently swallowed a knife, fork and spoon. The doctors report him as well as ever.

Aman in Pennsylvania killed himself the other day because his wife would not permit him to go to see Cornett the prize-fighter, in an entertainment.

Down in New Mexico a child was found playing with a rattlesnake in entire unconsciousness of its danger. A cowboy threw a lasso over the head of the reptile and so dispatched it.

Paul B. Du Chaillu the great African trayeler be-

Paul B. Du Chaillu, the great African traveler, be-lieves he has had more chances to marry than any other man living. He says that while in Africa 22,000 women were offered to him as wives.

In Japan the dentists pull decayed teeth with the thumb and forefinger, without the sid of forceps. The young Japanese who aspires to be a dentist is put at twelve years of age, or younger, to pulling pegs driven into a board. In course of time his finger muscles become strong enough.

The robe worn by the first Napoleon when he was rowned Emperor is said to have weighed 80 pounds, it was made of crimson velvet, all over which were colden bees. It was bordered by worked branches of live tree, laurel and oak in circles enclosing the letter N with a crown above each one. The Bring, the border and the cope were of ermine.

Happenings Here, There provider.

Out in Oregon they have a woman mail carrier. There are 109,600 steam locomotives running on the earth.

There are over 3,000 uniformed policemen in New York city.

An omnibus propelled by electricity has been introduced in London.

Nearly six millions of fur skins were imported into England last year.

Near San Diego, Cal., a sea bass was caught which weighed 300 pounds.
Over 7,000 deaths are reported to have occurred in Persia from the cholera.
An electric railroad is to be built up the mountain of Popocatepetl in Mexico.

The output of American watches was 7,000 movements daily, in September last.

During the past fall over 15,000,000 pounds of fish have been taken from Lake Eric.

Wm. E. Gladstone, who is now Prime Minister of England, is in the eighty-third year of his age.

New York State has in its treasury nearly \$2,000,000 and has outstanding obligations of only \$450,000. A woman living in Brooklyn, N. Y., recently punished her seven year old son by burning him with a red-hot poker.

According to the last census there are in the United States 53,372,703 native born inhabitants and 9,249,-547 of foreign birth.

There is a newspaper in Germany the proprietor-ship of which has passed uninterrupted from father to son for a century and a half.

Although Ex-President Rutherford B. Hayes is over seventy years of age he has just entered upon the Chautauqua course of reading and study.

All the remaining street car lines in St. Louis are soon to be equipped with electric motors. The change will involve an expenditure of over \$2,000,000.

The tallest trees in the world grow in the gullies of Victoria, New South Wales. Several over 400 teet high have been measured and one over 471 feet.

It is interesting to know that on an electric railway in Boston it costs about 51-4 cents to propel one car one mile. With horses it costs about 111-3 cents.

A delirious patient in a New York hospital the other day jumped from a third story window which had been opened while the ward was being cleaned. A young Canadian named Calverly crossed the gorge below Niagara Falls not long since. He was the thirteenth man who has made the perilous trip.

gorge below Niagara Falls not long since. He was the thirteenth man who has made the perilous trip.

A fire broke out in the dwelling of George Croft near Altoona, Pa. There was no water available and the fire was extinguished with three barrels of cider.

An instrument has been invented abroad which measures the flow of blood in the arteries. With its use it is possible to determine under what circumstances the flow of blood is increased or diminished.

A curious coincidence of the campaign was the marriage of Miss Reid, niece of one of the candidates for the vice-presidency to Mr. Harrison; the latter, however, being no immediate relation of the President.

The swift yacht Haleyon recently smuggled into the United States, on the Pacific coast, \$150,000 worth of opium, \$100,000 worth of silk and eighty-nine Chinamen for whom its owners received \$500 a head.

Gas stoves have been found to possess many advantages over coal stoves for small families. They are less expensive and the fire is well under way as soon as the gas is lighted and out as soon as it is turned off.

Walrus hides often weigh as much as 700 pounds

turned off.

Walrus hides often weigh as much as 700 pounds each. They are from 2 to 3 inches thick when tanned. It takes 5 years to cure them. They are used to polish silverware and precious stones and they cost about \$5 a pound.

about \$5 a pound.

Street cars drawn by horses will soon be only a memory. In the United States there are now four hundred and thirty-nine electric railways with five thousand one hundred and seventy miles of track and six thousand six hundred and forty-one motor cars.

In 1850 the foreign born population of the United States represented 9 68,100 per cent of the United States, but in 1890 the percentage has grown to 14 77,100. One effect of the cholera scare has been to greatly diminish emigration to the United States.

The tenement house problem in the great cities is one exceedingly difficult to solve; but it is in St. Petersburg that the conditions are worse than anywhere cise. In one house there forty-six men, women and children were recently found living in two small rooms.

rooms.

There is talk in favor of filling in the Harlem River, the narrow stream which bounds Manhattan Island to the north and northwest. It is estimated that by so doing land will be gained worth \$10,000,000, while the surrounding property will be benefited to the extent of \$100,000,000.

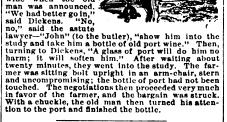
to the extent of \$100,000,000.

A man in Illinois lived unhappily with his wife. He tried to get a divorce; but failed. He tried to run away; she followed him too closely. Then he stole a horse and buggy, with the hope that he would be sentenced for a long term to the penitentiary, and so be enabled to escape her. He was caught and sent to golf for a few days.

A man in Seattle has built a steamer with his own hands in which he intends to journey to the World's Fair. He will steam down the Pacific Coast, have the vessel carried by trein across the Isthmus of Panama, steam to New Yerk and thence by river and canals and the lakes to Chicago. The steamer is 56 feet long and will carry a crew of six men.

How Dickens Bought His Home.

Mr. Henry Dickens, who is a lawyer, says that his father—Charles Dickens, the novelist—was very fond of lawyers, and he tells this story of his father and Mr. Frederick Ouvry, the well-known soliction. One one occasion, Dickens was in treaty for a piece of land at the back of Gad's Hill, the proposed vendor being an old farmer, a keen old man of business, and a hard nut to crack. An interview was arranged with him at Gad's Hill for a certain evening, and Mr. Gad's Hill for a certain evening, and Mr.
Ouvry came down for
the purpose of being
present when the bargain was struck.
Dickens and Ouvry
were sitting over their
wine when the old
man was announced.
"We had better go in,"
said Dickens. "No,
no," said the astute
lawyer—"John" (to the
lawyer—"John" (to the
study and take him a b



"Hey, you there, come here," said a sharp-voiced woman from the back steps of a house to a passing tramp. The tramp ploughed his way through the new fallen snow to the steps, thinking the woman had taken pity on him and would supply him with a luncheon. "Have you anything for me, lady" he said. "No, you can go now," said the woman, turning into the house. "I just wanted you to walk in here so you'd break a path out to the gate." And she shut the door and, bolted it, leaving the tramp to improve the path on his way out.

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A Gorgeously Beautiful Picture in magnificent coloring upon a back ground of pure gold; size, 16x2. In the center resting upon a beautiful easel and supported by a slab of purest marble is an open cook and appeared by a slab of purest marble is an open cook and the tentility on the left a beautiful serol and on the right another beautiful serol on which to register the marriages and deaths. Surmounting all in most beautiful letters are tho words, "GolD BLESS OUR FAMILY." Underneath are spaces for Fathers' and Mothers' pictures, and all around are similar spaces interspersed with most beautiful flowers and leaves buds and blossoms, roses and vines, etc., in varied colors and matchless beauty, all thrown into startling prominence by the beautiful and cestly back ground of Soild Gold. AGENTS, NOW IS YOUR TIME! Our regular price is 50 cents but to any one who will cut this out and send with order we will sell at Agents' Prices. Sample by mail 36x; 6 for 81x, 25; 12 for 850; 25 for 876, 50 and Chain, 80x, All charges prepale. STANDARE and Chain, 855... All charges prepaid. STANDARB SUPPLY HOUSE, Chicage, III.

We will give a Cash Voucher promium for the fol-lowing correct answers, \$500 for the first Reply, \$500 for the Second, \$200 for the Third. 100 for the Fourth. \$50 each for the acxt 10, And a \$10 Cash Voucher to every other person who sends THE BELLEVUE MEDICINE CO.,
P. O. Box 2152.

182 Church St., New York.

GIVEN AWAY TO THOSE WHO GUESS THIS REBUS.



The above Rebus is an OLD SAYING, familiar to every one. WHAT 18 17? We will give to the first person from whom we receive the correct answer on or before March 30th, 1833, \$100.00 in gold. To the second, 80t, to the next 10 a Solid Gold Genesian Brown or Gray. To the next 10 a Solid Gold Genesian Whom we receive the lant careet answer, we will give to the 100.00 in Gold, to the next 10 a Solid Gold Genesian Whom we receive the lant careet answer, we will give \$100.00 in Gold, to the next to the last 80th, the next 3 a Handsome Shik Dress Pattern of 18 yards in one of above colors. To the next 100 (should there be so many sending in correct answers) a Parlor Ornament to each, whe prepay all shipping charges on presents, and send in accordance with this offer on the same day the sanswer is received. All answers must be sent by regular mail and received by us not inter than March 30th. With your answers send to 25 in silver or 80c in stamps for a val of DH, HOBB'S LITTLE VEGETABLE PILE.

TAKEAPILL.

TAKEAPILL.

TAKEAPILL.

REMEABER. you pay nothing for the prescrits as they are absoluted. Pills send the capital to t

Suffering from Nervous Debility and kindred troubles are guaranteed a cure in the simple treatment which restored me. The recipe sent free. Avoid quacks and try it.W.BUTLER, Marshall, Mich.

STICK A PIN IN HERE:

Stick A

Send us at once a photograph or tintype of yourself or any member of your family, living or dead, and we will make from same one of our enlarged life-like portraits (together with frame complete), and or our purple and in your home will do us more good than any other advertisement. This offer is made in order to introduce our purple and we will forfelt only I UNDRED dollars to anyone sending us a photograph and not securing his portrait and frame FREE as per this offer. We guarantee the return of your photos so have no fear of losing it. Address all vur letters to Brooklyn Art Unlass, 67 Marry Ave, photos so have no fear of losing it. Address all vur letters to Brooklyn Art Unlass, 67 Marry Ave, when the properties of the properties of the properties of the properties. Put your name and address have of photos.



HERE IS WHAT WE GIVE:

HERE IS WHAT WE GIVE:

One Regulation Size Differential Chart,
One Dozen Sheets Pattern Paper,
One Well-made Steel Tracing Wheel,
One Well-made Steel Tracing Wheel,
One Regulation Size Differential Chart,
One Well-made Steel Tracing Wheel,
One Well-made Steel Tracing Wheel,
One Resember Dressmaker's Tape Measure.
It is a heavily mounted chart over two yards long and two feet wide, having the different measurements all lined out for all kinds of garmente, with Bust Measures for 25 to 46 inches. You get the Bust Measures of the person you want to cut a garment for and that one being the ONLY measurement recallulated and drafted right on to the chart by experts who have made it a business for twenty years, and PERFORTATIONS in the chart at each cutting point show just where your size is to come by simply laying on a piece of common Paper and tracing along the line with a lead pencil. All you then have to do is to cut your goods by the pattern you have thus manufactured yourself—that is all there is to it. But remember, you will find recryinting on the chart in shape, style and build of garments you want to use, and if you have old wearing apparel you want to make over into atylish fits, you go by the same system in changing them.

It Costin no More to have a Stylish Firting GALMENT than a poor one, and you actually have 60 percent on goods by using our system, it has been studied down to such a fine point by experienced draughts-men. So it requires no mathematical calculations on your part at all (all other systems require a good deal), you just go by the plans all laid out for you. You will find it so simple, complete and Perfect in all its patterns and departments that it can but be acknowledged to be a require regular price of charta alone is \$2.00.

But to enersy one who will get you a clush of six subscribers for Comfort at 25 cents per

enced dressmakers. Ours makes Every One a dressmaker in ten minutes. The regular price of chara clone is \$2.00.

But to every one who will get up a club of six subscribers for Comfort at 25 cents per year, each in advance, we will send one of these Comfort Outsts FREE, we paying all express and mailing charges. By showing a copy of Comfort to your neighbors, friends, and acquaintance, you can easily get up a club in one evening; for COMFORI, with its many improvements and new, original, copyrighted departments, now needs only to be seen to be appreciated. To those who do not care to go to the trouble of getting a club, we will send COMFORI for one year, together with one of these Outsits (all express and mailing charges paid by us) upon receipt of one dollar. This offer holds good for three months only.

Ladies can make lots of money quickly easily, and pleasantly. Write us at once for MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.

terms to agents.

A WOMAN IN THE CASE.

(CONCLUDED FROM PAGE 6.)

make a good living without going very far from home. But he had never before met a fellow like John Hill.

John knew of a mine up in the mountains where two men with good teams could make big money handling ore. He and George McCabe were just the men to make a small fortune out of the thing.

Of course Mary did not want George to go into that indefinite region called "up in the mountains," but even she saw that Mr. Hill had large honest-looking eyes and at last she gave a reluctant consent.

The two teamster each with a four-horse mountain wagon, early on a September morning, started on the trip up the Arkansaw river. They jogged along in the stolld way that teamsters do and only spoke when they halted at noon to feed their animals.

At dark John Hill stopped by the bank of a lonely creek where they went into camp. They cooked and ate a scanty supper and then each turned in to sleep in his own wagon.

But John's large eyes were wide awake and after an hour's waiting he crawled to the other wagon and listened. With his revolver in his hand he climbed silently upon the wagon scat.

McCabe was shot while asleep in his wagon and died with scarcely a struggle. The next day John Hill sold a four-horse team in Canon City and dispatched a forged letter from her husband, to Mary McCabe.

Then John walked back to where his own team was left and driving through the town at night, pushed on, not for the mountains, but for Denver.

The letter that was to have allayed Mary McCabe's anxiety instead of serving that end, brough ther to Canon City on the day after it was received.

Some strange presentiment told her that all was not right with George. When she found

brought her to Canon City on the day after it was received.

Some strange presentiment told her that all was not right with George. When she found that John Hill had sold her husband's team, she aroused the townspeople to search for the body of the murdered man. It was a sad search, for the body was found in a dry aroyos by the creek, partially covered with stones.

The woman was frantic with a weight of grief that the men of the place solemniy swore they would avenge. As for John Hill, he was arrested the minute he reached Denver.

would average. As follower, the minute he reached Denver.
At that time I was criminal reporter for a Denver paper and happened to witness the arrest, which at once awakened my deepest interest.
The sheriff started for Canon City with his prisoner but on the way he learned that an armed mob was waiting to lynch the murderer without trial or delay. So the prisoner was brought back and locked in the jail at Denver for safekeeping.
Little by little the facts were gathered and patched together. A bullet hole in the bottom of the wagon showed how the murder had been done.
On Sunday afternoon with a

On Sunday afternoon with a

on Sunday afternoon with a built-up theory of the crime I went to the jail for an interview with the man charged with its commission. The sheriff took me to the cell where John was confined and reporter and murderer were locked up together.

John accepted my proffered eigar with quiet politeness and we smoked awhile in silence. Then we talked over his past life. It was a puzzle to me. He had proved himself trustworthy in the most trying situations. At the Gondols he had held sacred the lives of the miners and the property of the owners. He had even spared the confiding deputy marshal and let thousands of dollars slip through his fingers. And yet in spite of all this he had committed two and perhaps three cold-blooded murders without any apparent reason.

We talked for an hour as coolly and pleasantly as old friends, but without his giving me any information.

"Hill," I said, looking him steadily in the eye, "let

We talked for an hour as coolly and pleasantly as old friends, but without his giving me any information.

"Hill," I said, looking him steadily in the eye, "let me tell you a story. A man whose name is John Hill, alias One-armed John, alias Big John, alias John, — was a stage driver on the route between Laramie and Cheyenne. A trunk was lost and as it happened to contain a little money, the driver disappeared and went to Black Forks."

Then I told him the story that I have told here, partly from information received from the officers and partly from my own imagination. As I talked with assurance, giving detail after detail, I felt moved by some strange spell.

It was as if the prisoner's memory was working in my own mind. I never doubted that I told the truth and when I came to the time when One-armed John left the mountain, I filled in the story of the Swede's murder with absolute confidence.

I could see the two men leave the four gray horses and walk back to look for the pocket-book one of them said he had lost. They stood for an instant by the edge of a dizay precipice.

Then with scarcely a struggle the Swede fell headlong over the cliff.

It was the greatest mental strain I ever experienced and yet the prisoner beside me sat calm and unmoved. Not the twitching of an eyelid betrayed excitement.

excitement. For weeks Big John was held in Denver and then in the night he was smuggled into Canon City jail. I went down on the same train, for I knew the temper of the people and felt certain that there would be trouble.

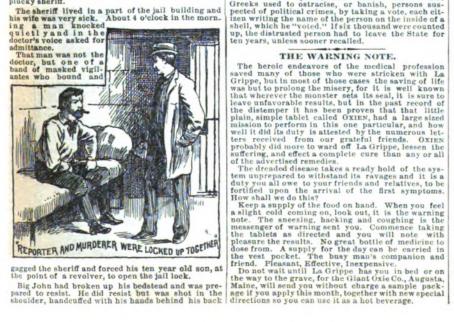
trouble.

John thought so too, and as we walked together he told me what I had never known before, the fact that an aged mother lived in Iowa and was at that time on her way to Denver.

"I may not come out of this alive," he said, handing me a sealed envelope; "and if I don't you will find in that the story of my life. For the sake of your own mother protect my secret while my mother lives. She will never believe me guilty."

The news of the prisoner's arrival gradually

The news of the prisoner's arrival gradually spread through the town. The people still swore vengeance for the murder of McCabe. Twice a mob, armed with firearms, ropes and pieces of railroad iron, attacked the jail, only to be driven off by the plucky sheriff.



and led out into the night with a rope around his

Twice he was hauled up on a telegraph pole and twice lowered and asked to confess. Not a word did he utter.

The third time he was hauled clear of the ground and the rope was tied.

and the rope was tied.

There hangling dead, the townspeople found him when daylight came.

The confession which he would not for his mother's sake give to those angry men, lies before me now. It is the same story I told under that strange spell when looked with him into the same cell. It is entitled "A Victim of Conscience."

He had been driven from his mother's home in Iowa by an overbearing stepfather. The injustice of one man became the injustice of the world and upon the world he determined to be revenged.

He felt that he had killed the cowardly White with good reason but his miserable conscience tortured him, nevertheless, when he wandered over the prairies with a broken arm.

The work, responsibility and excitement at the

The work, responsibility and excitement at the

Gondola mine kep Gondola mine kept his conscience quiet. When that influence was gone and he was alone with the Swede, John's self-punishment was so intense that he murdered his companion from THE COMMITTEE ASKED HIN TO CONFESS.

pure hatred of the race.

Mrs. Sarah Alice Worthington went peacefully to her grave, mourning her martyred son.

And I, as I read his pitiful story, think that perhaps, after all, he was a martyr. Not to his conscience, not to the wild life of those frontier days, but to the injustice of that early wrong which embittered his whole life.

ODDITIES.

Of all the many million people on the earth no two ave ears alike.

There has been discovered in Oregon the site of an

"A snail's pace" is found by actual measurement to be one mile in fourteen days.

John Merryweather Tinsley, a colored man who died recently in Toronto, was said to have been 109 years old.

In San Francisco has been discovered an animal which is half deer and half goat. He looks like a deer; but he has the marvelous digestion of a goat. A man got into a quagmire in Oregon the other day and for three days he slowly sank. When discovered and rescued only his head remained above the surface.

Experiments in illumination under water have been made at Toulon in France. An electric lamp was lowered and sea-bed and the water were lighted up to a distance of more than a hundred feet.

A miser in Kingston, N. Y., kept his money in his room having no faith in banks. Recently he discovered that mice had eaten his horde of \$7,000. There was not a piece left big enough for identification. In Virginia there is a well in which strange faces and forms appear upon the surface of the water in its depths. There has been no satisfactory explanation of the phenomenon, and those who have seen the faces think them ghostly and uncanny.

In Yucatan mosquitoes were unknown until they were introduced by American vessels and railways. Now it is said that the mosquitoes there have developed until they are of enormous size, and that their bite is as apainful as the sting of a bee.

There is a man living in Ohio who has let his hair grow until it is so long that he can completely cover his face with it. He wears it over his face most of the time and his eyes are nearly useless they have been so long excluded from the light.

The word ostracise comes from the same root as the word oyster, and means "shell." The Greeks used to ostracise, or banish, persons suspected of political crimes, by taking a vote, each citizen writing the name of the person on the inside of a shell, which he "voted." If six thousand were counted up, the distrusted person had to leave the State for ten years, unless sooner recalled.

THE WARNING NOTE.

SPORTING GOODS OF PAGES PAGE, BY ADDUCTION OF THE SPORTING GOODS OF PAGES PAGE, CARDS, ETC. Additional of the Section of the S



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Orange Manna is a New, pleasant and Certain orange Manna is a New, pleasant and Certain cure for affections of the Throat, Lungs, Stomach and Bowels, by an entirely new principle. Send for Circulars of this marvelous new treatment.

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UWANT LADIES AND GENTLEMEN TO INTRODUCE (among their friends)
Cures the worst cases of NICK, NERVOUS or BILIOUS Headache and Neuragia in 10 minutes. Contains no
opinites—leaves no bad effects. Price, 25c; costs asgents 12½c. To be paid for when sold. One package sent FREE
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YOU ARE RUPTURED We Can Cure You to will cost you nothing. Send 2c. stamp. HAYDEN CO., B 67, No. Windham, Maine.

at sight, for \$5.00, and pays a good profit? If so, write us at once you will be too late, as we only appoint one agent in a county Article suitable for male or female. Address THE LIBERTY MFG. CO (Department 102), 229 Hudson St., New York City.



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and at the same time ex-tend our business and make

Please read the following Testimonials.

CRESCENT CRAYON CO., CHICAGO, ILL.,

Dear Sirs:—I received the crayon of myself on the 7th first. Many thanks for the same. Esta features are perfect; and all who have seen it say that it is perfect. Nothing too great can be said of your fine work, and I shall endeavor to do all within my power to secure you orders. I remain, Yours most gratefully.

S. H. PRYOR, 31 Valentine St., Boston, Mars.

(RESCENT CRAYON CO., CHICAGO, ILL.

Dear Sirs:—I have received the picture all right, for which I offer many thanks that it is as you represented it. I have since had one made in Cincinnati, which was offered at reasonable termed which has not given any satisfaction at all. Now I would like to know your price for life-size per traits so that I can better recommend it.

ANNA D. HASSE, Flat 7, 125 W. Court St., Cincinnati, O.

From Maine to California.



ACONY

| MAINE, Norway P. 0.—Enclosed find five dollars for which send me Oxien. I cannot say too much in praise of Oxien. It cured my 70-year-old father of rheunatism.—Mrs. Geo. E. Towslee.
| MASS., Fail River.—My life was despaired of, but after using one Glant Box of Oxien I became perfectly well and strong.—John Slinn, Gen. Agt. Vt. Life Ins. Co.
| NEW YORK, De Ruyter.—Oxien has benefited me more[than anything I ever used.—Mrs. William Sterling.
| PENN., Saluvia, Fulton Co.—Enclosed find ten dollars for Oxien. Was crippled with rheunatism and other aliments. Oxien cured me, and it has done wonders for others.—Robert Sipes.
| LOUISIANA, Lehmann.—God Diess Oxien. It cured my, wife, for whom dectors could do nothing.—B. H. Green.
| GEORGIA, Rocky Ford.—It is a Godsend to the world. Please send me another Giant box for enclosed dollar.—Thos. H. Stringer.
| NORTH CAROLINA, Leggett.—Oxien has done me more good than any doctor's medicine I ever tried.—Caroline H. Hedgpeth.
| ALABAMA, Chunchula.—Oxien is worth its weight in gold, and I would not be without it.—O.P. Ingersoll.
| FLORIBA, St. Augustine.—For years I was a 'great sufferer from nervous prostration, but now I am well and strong again, and all to whom I give this Wonderful Food for the Nerves experience the same improvement.—Mrs. Ellen E. S. Phillips.
| OHIO, Sharon Centre.—For a long time my husband had fits. Doctors could do nothing. Since he has used Oxien he has had no sign of his old trouble.—Mrs. John Houghlan.

| ILLINOIS, Ridge Farm. made medeel like a new man. It it will.—Chas. Buell. | NEB., Howe.—It has done | NeBantz. | NeB., Howe.—It has done | NeBantz. | NeB., Howe.—It has done | NeBantz. | NeBan

nine years' illness Oxien has brought me good health.—Mrs. Wm. Bantz.

MISS., McCool.—I scarcely hoped to recover, but Oxien has made a new man of me.—W. B. Hull.

MICHIGAN, Dundee.—I had a paralytic stroke January, 1891, and lost the use of my right side. I spent nearly \$900, but Oxien is the only thing that did me any good, and it has done wonders. This is my first trial at writing since the shock.—W. W. Fieming.

TEXAS, Bowie.—May God bless you always for Oxien. I have no language to tell how happy and thankful I feel. After twenty years' affliction Oxien made me young again.—W. F. Rogers.

COLORADO, Highlands.—Oxien cured me of the worst stomach trouble I ever knew of, and it has done the same for others here with similar complaints.—Mrs. Wm. W. Hinckley.

NEBRASKA, Palmer.—Your Wonderful Food for the Nerves is doing wonders for my wife. Enclosed find \$f\$ for Oxien.—C. B. McCormick.

CALIFORNIA, San Bernardino.—For thirteen years I suffered with catarih, but tried your Wonderful Food for the Nerves, and to my great joy am now perfectly well.—Miss Rosa Velasquez.

CALIFORNIA, San Francisco.—I was a complete wreck, but after using Oxien am now well and strong. My wife's health has been surprisingly improved also by your Wonderful Food for the Nerves. I send g30 for a lot of Oxien and Plasters.—Jas. G. Bennett, Chief Engineer, Telephone Building.



From Poverty to Riches.

One agent says: "In half an hour I have sold ten dollars' worth (or at the rate of thirty thousand dollars a year profit) and still they are coming for it. The Oxien Electric Porous Plasters are doing wonders here."

Not a day passes but what scores of letters like the foregoing reach us from grateful men and women whose lives have been saved by our Wonderful Food for the Nerves, Oxien.

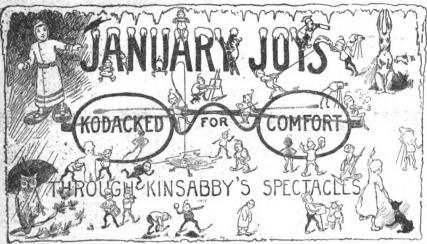
Every hour brings fresh proof that Oxien is the Food which Scientists have searched for; the Medicine which doctors have longed for; and the Relief which hopeless sufferers have prayed for. It gives new life, new hope, new power, new vigor, new strength, new happiness.

It is a Godsend for the weak and weary; and a Godsend to thousands of Home Workers who are making fortunes introducing it to their friends and neighbors. Write at once for free samples and terms to agents and secure your territory.

case point your territory.

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THE GIANT OXIE CO., 226 Willow Street, AUGUSTA, MAINE.



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s of COMFORT.

Maryland, Miss Lucinda Kay writes: "Will you kindly tell me something about this 'College English,' which Boston people are now talking a bout? What is it, anyway, and can you give us an example?" Answer. Next to football the most intellectual branch of study in our hightoned colleges at present is College English.

study in our hightoned colleges at
present is College
English.

It consists of
the mother-to or
the mother



REFINING influence of the fair sex is something astonishing. And so long as man's misdeeds shall cast their sinful shadows upon this sorrowing world, so long will woman's mag-ical touch round off the roughness of his brutal character.

ical touch round off the roughness of his brutal character.

The latest example is furnished by the State of Connecticut.

For years the army of men employes in the great iron bridge and toothless comb works have contended that you could no more construct a safe, substantial iron bridge without tempering it with profanity than you could dam the Connecticut river or skim the clouds from the sky with a teaspoon.

From the mild-mannered millionaire who merely draws smoke out of cigarettes and salary out of the stockholders, down to the plainest puddler, the belief was rock-ribbed that nothing could so everlastingly clinch a rivet as a double-twisted, nin ne-indicates an army mule to barricade his ears with cotton.

A while ago the company engaged a lot of young

A while ago the company engaged a lot of young ladies as typewriters and stenographers, and before the sun went down on the first day it became clear to them that they would either have to evangelize the heathen or throw up their situations.

So they called into life the "Society for the Suppression of Swearing and Advancement of Christian Virtues," and with the winning ways peculiar to women in general and Connecticut typewriter girls in particular, they soon succeeded in getting every man to join their happy band, and to subject his conversation to the following:

SLIDING SCALE.

SLIDING SCALE.



the entire party purchased peanuts and pop-corn and "Rah! Rah! Rah'd" for Yale, is said to have been ε

the entire party purchased peanuts and pop-corn and "Rah! Rah!" for Yale, is said to have been • • ceedingly great.

Visions of a trip to the World's Fair were already looming up before the fair typists when it became apparent to the men that the existing state of affairs could not continue without bankrupting some of the best families. As a result a secret meeting was called and an opposition society formed for the purpose of erecting, in the guise of a lodge-room, a Padded Profanity Proof Parlor, with boiler iron hangings ornamented with an asbestos dado and other freproof decorations. Each member is supplied with a pass-key and when the evil spirit moves him—well—this is a secret society.

THE very latest thing in chrysanthemums is the "Goodness Gracious." Its name was suggested by the spectacle of a New York dude with one of those flowers about the size of a soup plate in his button-hole. We may now look for the Helen Blazes thearte bonnet which obstructs visions of the Blaze Crook and Babes of the Woods.



Aurora Borealis frame of pink seashells and varnished pine cones.

This latest and greatest sorrow came upon me in this way. The recent prize moneygram contest between His Excellency Grover Cleveland and my former friend Harrison gave me lumps in the side, and I longed for change. So when my physician said that it would pay me to go in pursuit of the Ozone among the pine-clad hills of Maine, I borrowed a gun, and began looking about for a man who would lend me a dog—for the president-elect carried with him every pointer I had before the election. (A diagram goes with this yun.)

began looking about for a man who would lend me a dog-for the president-elect carried with him every pointer I had before the election. (A diagram goes with this pun.)

Now while I had hunted a good many kinds of game, I had never pursued the Ozone of Maine, and as I wished to go prepared I of course needed a dog. I therefore felt pretty gay when an Augusta friend helloed to me over the long distance telephone that he had secured two fine hounds and asked me to come up at once. I was in such a hurry that I left on an empty stomach and reached Augusta at ten P.M., only to find that one of the dogs had in the meantime decided to go after Ozone on his own account, while the other turned out to be stolen property and came near getting me into jail.

From what I gathered it was a poor year for dogs; and as there was but one other hound in town I hired him on sight for three dollars per day, agreeing to get killed if I lost him. This dog looked so thin that my friend fed him three pounds of venison chops which his wife had stored in the ice-box for our breakfast and then we locked him up in the stable.

We had scarcely gone to bed when the dog began howling as though he had struck the trail of a white elephant, and in less than a minute a dozen windows and angry voices were raised, and I wished that I hadn't come. I heard my friend's wife tell her husband that she wished he would take his dog-friends to the hotel instead of letting them disturb the entire neighborhood, so I sneaked down to the barn and tried to soothe the hound with some more venison.

Now it doesn't take a hound long to dispose of a few pounds of meat, and I had no sooner reached my bed again than a fresh Hallelujah Chorus rang in my ears.

The night was now no longer young, and I began to yiew the situation

ears.
The night was now no longer young, and I began to



error of his ways. Every time he wanted to go home to his mother I smothered him with a feather bed. And just before dawn I carried him back to his owner, whom I gave another three dollars for taking him off my hands.

A man may have worried through the weary vigils of the night by the bedside of a serious case of spoiled child; he may have fretted himself into delirious triangles over a kicking tooth, or he may have organized himself into a cyclorama of cuss-words in trying to convince eleven stubborn jurymen that they were afflicted with damphoolia. But this same man is still a stranger to those emotions which come only to the Ozone hunter who sits up with a howling, home-sick hound pup while the night owl tunes its lay among the pine-clad hills of Maine.

Cut This Out it may Bring You \$7000.

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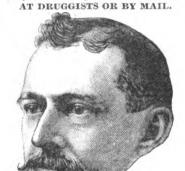
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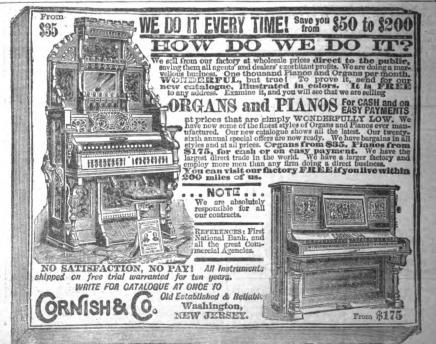


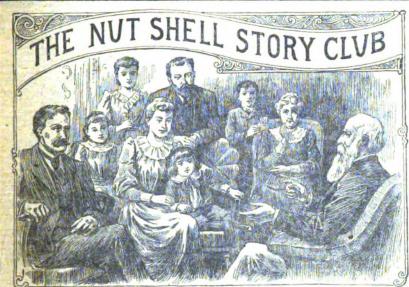
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Under this head are published every month the best original short stories received under the following prize offer and the writers of which have complied with the conditions here named.

Only regular subscribers of Comfort may compete for the prizes. All contributions must bear the writer's full name and address; must be written on one side of the paper only and be mailed in a sealed envelope, duly stamped, to EDITOR NUTSHELL STORY CLUB, care of COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE. All stories must be strictly original and contributors may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace; of city or country life, or of experiences on land or seabut no story must contain more than 1200 or less than 500 words. No manuscript will be returned unless an addressed and stamped envelope is enclosed.

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The prize winners for February are:

Alwin B. Jovenil, "The Man in Black," 1st

Maggle K. Allen, "The Phantom Bear," 2nd prize. Alice Ruth Moore, "That Lost Year," 3rd prize. Relena H. Thomas, "Looking Under the Bed," 4th prize.

THE MAN IN BLACK.

BY ALWIN B. JOVENIL.

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NESunday night I entered village hurchand dropped into a back pew. As for a moment had a distinct view of his face.

I am something of a student of physi-

ognomy, my business requires that I should be and this man's countenance, especially his eyes, at once attracted and held my attention.

The glowing orbs, which for a second had fashed into mine, were uncommonly large, black, deep-set, and surrounded by dark rings. It was the peculiar steady glitter emanating from them which had first riveted my attention. The face had a chalk-like pallor, though the full lips were ruddy with blood and a tiny spot of red glowed on each cheek. The cheek bones were a trifle high and the forehead tall and narrow. He had no meard nor mustache and his hair, though me a rally coal-black, was now slightly streakeder th gray. He was some-what above the average height with narrow, what above the average height, with narrow, and the long keen blade of a knife flashed in the lamplight. Not a sound, not a motion,

a neat suit of black of a clerical cut.

The more I studied the man the deeper became my interest. I was positive something was wrong with him; but did not dream of the startling verification my judgment was soon to receive.

Shortly after my entrance a young man came in and took a sear by my side. My attention was so concentrated upon the man in black that I gave the youth but a casual glance; enough, however, to show me an unusually handsome face and a graceful form clothed in garments of the latest style and richest texture. "One of the beau monde," I thought, and gave him no further consideration.

During the week there had been in the city a theatrical troupe, who had been very successful in filling the opera hall each evening. Perhaps it was this fact which suggested to the pastor the idea that now the opportune moment had arrived to preach a sermon on theaters and theater-goers. Be that as it may, the discourse was directed against plays, players, and play-

I have only a confused remembrance of the sermon itself. It did not interest me. I do not believe in indiscriminate condemnation; and the discourse that night was the most bitter denunciation of the theater and everything connected with it, I had ever heard.

I could see from the fixed position of the head that the glowing eyes of the man in black were bent constantly upon the minister. As the discourse proceeded, he gradually leaned more and more forward, and I knew by the nerm an sitting vous way in which his long white fingers griped some two seats the back of the seat in front of him, that he was to the front of becoming deeply agitated. Twice he partly meturned, and arose from his seat and each moment his excitement grew upon him. Suddenly he sprang to his feet and, with his right hand griping something concealed in his bosom, strode quickly up the aisle toward the pastor. The pastor stopped short in the midst of a sentence and involuntarily, as from one man, the sound of a long breath of horror went up from the congregation.

"Glory Hallelujah!" burst from the lips of the man, as he sprang up the pulpit stairs and faced the audience. "Glory Hallelujah! The Lord has spoken! Thank Him, O ye people; for His wonderful goodness thank Him! The Lord thought to destroy, this city with fire and brimstone, like unto Sodom and Gomorrah of old because of its great wickedness. But He has harkened unto my voice. He will stay His hand of wrath. He will accept a sacrifice. In the blood of this holy man thy sins shall be washed away. Thank Him, O ye people; for His wonderful goodness, thank Him!"

He withdrew his right hand from his bosom

scarcely a breath came from the horrised congregation. All sat as if chained to their seats.

The maniac turned to the pastor, who stood with ashen face and trembling knees powerless from fear. "Down upon thy kness, holy man, and bare thy bosom for the sacrificial knife," he cried, lifting the gleaming steel high above his head. "Tis thy blessed privilege to shed thy blood for this people. The Lord, God Almighty, has commanded it."

With a groan the pastor fell upon his knees. his face showing pinched and white with terror and his eyes fixed in a fascination of horror upon the point of the uplifted knife.

The glowing eyes of the maniac looked down upon the face of the man of God. "Beloved of the Lord," he cried, "this day, with thy red blood, shalt the black sins of this people be washed whiter than snow." Then his wild eyes turned upward and his voice grew stern and solemn. "In Thy name, O God, I make this blood-offering for the remission of the

sins of this people. Amen."

The long keen blade began to tremble; but before the fatal downward rush came, a loud clear voice rang out: "Stay thy arm, O holy prophet of God: Stay thy arm until I pin this bit of white paper over the heart of the man, or else, how canst thou tell where to drive the sharp point of thy knife!"

And I saw the young man, who had seated himself by my side, arise to his feet and quietly walk up the aisle toward the mad-man, with a bit of white paper held between the fingers of his uplifted hand.

The wild eyes of the man in black turned to the face of the youth. "Thou hast spoken wisely," he said, after a moment's keen scrutiny. "But make haste, for thou shalt also hold a basin in which to catch the flowing blood," and he lowered the knife to await his coming.

As coolly and as quietly, as though he was about to pin a button-hole bouquet upon the lapel of a companion's coat, the young man approached the kneeling minister and, placing the bit of white paper over his heart, turned to the man, whose burning eyes had followed his every movement, and bade him hand to him the large pin sticking in the wall directly behind the pulpit.

So naturally was this request made that the man in black turned, without a moment's hesitation, to secure the pin.

The instant his back was toward him the young man sprang upon the maniae and, griping him about the shoulders so as to pinion his arms to his sides, bore him to the floor; where he held him, despite his desperate struggles, until help came and the man was securely bound and taken away.

The man in black proved to be an escaped lunatic from a neighboring asylum.

And the brave youth?
Well, all I know of him is this: When the pastor picked up the bit of white paper, which had fallen from his bosom to the floor, he read, engraven thereon, these words:
"W. Wesley Wilson, Leading Man, Globe Dramatic Company."

THE PHANTOM BEAR.

BY MAGGIE K. ALLEN.

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THE 23d day of January, 1785, John Jordon set out from his home at Harrodsburg, Ky., intending to take a day's hunt in the hills bordering upon Salt ariver.

At that time Harrodsburg was the only settlement within fifty miles, and the country, for miles in every direction, stretched away in | comfortably near him.

est trodden only by wild beasts and an occas-ional band of Indians bent upon war or the chase.

The morning upon which Mr. Jordon left his home was warm for the time of the year and the snow had just begun to thaw.

He had not proceeded more than a couple of miles from his home when he struck the trait of a deer leading across the hill toward Salt

From a careful examination of the tracks, he was led to reason that the deer had passed that way not more than a half an hour previously, and that by traveling at a fair rate of speed, he would be sure to overtake the animal in a short

After crossing the hill the trail led off up Salt River valley for a couple of miles and then struck off due west.

Mr. Jordon still pushed forward at a good ace, and about one o'clock in the afternoon, just as he had reached the top of a rocky eminence, he saw the deer on the opposite hillside omplacently feeding upon some fern that grew under a ledge of rocks.

Carefully raising his gun, he fired, striking the animal in the shoulder; but the deer, although sorely wounded, bounded away upon three legs and disappeared around the point of the hill.

Mr. Jordon hastily reloaded his gun and started through the forest on the blood-stained trail every moment expecting to overtake the wounded animal.

On and on he sped, now leaping a rocky chasm, now clambering over a fallen tree, oblivious to all save the trail of the wounded deer.

Wholly unnoticed by the animated hunter dark clouds began to appear in the west and gradually overspread the sky.

It was now nearly four o'clock in the afternoon, and a few small flakes of snow began to fall, while at the same time the temperature dropped several degrees and a lively breeze sprang up from the northwest, swaying the tree-tops and driving the snow, which had now begun to fall thick and fast, swiftly through the heavy timber.

Mr. Jordon had not yet overtaken the wounded animal and the snow, aided by the wind, was fast obscuring the trail.

He now realized that his game had eluded him and that any further attempt at overtaking it would prove futile; so he at once faced about. buttoned his hunting-coat tightly about him, and began to retrace his steps.

He had proceeded but a short distance on his homeward journey when he was beset by a difficulty on which he had not reckoned, for by this time the fallen snow, blown hither and thither by the wind, had almost obscured his tracks and added to this was the uncomfortable assurance that night was fast coming on.

But by far the most grave difficulty with which he had to contend was the fact the was no longer able to distinguish the points of the compass; as the whole sky was overspread with heavy clouds and the coming night had already begun to spread its sombre mantle over the face of nature.

However, with the instinct of a true woodsman, he examined the trunk of a tree and knowing that the moss grew heaviest on the north side he was enabled to get his bearings with some degree of certainty; and, this being accomplished, he struck out boldly through the forest.

The night settled down dark as Styx, and but for the light of the snow he could not distinguish objects but a few paces distant.

The snow continued to fall and the biting wind blew in fitful gusts driving it amid the trees and drifting it here and there to considerable depths.

He now realized that he was wholly at a loss regarding directions and to add terror to dread the wild beasts were beginning to howl un-

dense, unbroken for- Drawing his hunting-knife from its sheath be

struggled onward; but why, he scarcely knew. He might be going in the wrong direction, but then he could not stand still a prey to the pinching cold and the creatures of his imagination.

How far he had traveled he had no way of knowing. It seemed an age since darkness set in and he

the creatures of his imagination.

How far he had traveled he had no way of knowing. It seemed an age since darkness set in and he argued that, had he traveled in the right direction, he must be near the settlement.

Onee or twice he heard the scream of a panther in the forest near him and, although a brave man, his heart qualled at the thought of an encounter with one of these fierce beasts.

For some distance farther he struggled on through the drifts of snow and the fallen and tangled timber and at length came to the top of a low range of hills with a valley on either side.

How long he had been walking he could not say, but he felt that it was long past midnight, and that morning was not far away. It had stopped snowing, and the wind had again swung round to the south, making the air full of a soft gray mist.

Utterly bewildered and exhausted he stopped for a moment leaning against a tree. In an instant he was overcome by drows incess, and must have fallen asleep, but the dropping of his gun from his relaxed hand awakened him.

but the dropping of his gun from his relaxed hand awakened him.

He found that the tree against which he was leaning was a hollow one, and realized that within it he might find shelter until the dawn should enable to tell just where he was.

So finding a hole he crept in. He did not dare to go to sleep, knowing that he was surrounded by danagers, so drawing his pipe from his pocket he lighted it to keep him awake. It was a struggle, for he was overcome with fatigue, and his syelids would fall together in spite of himself.

Suddenly he was broad awake. Stealthy steps were approaching, there was a scraping on the bark of the tree, and a huge head was thrust into the opening. With a cry he started, and threw his hand out or each his gun. His pipe, which he had just taken from his lips, was in his hand and as he stretched it out, the burning tobacco was blown against the animal's nose.

With a snarl, the head was withdrawn, and the re-

out, the burning tobacco was blown against the animal's nose.

With a snarl, the head was withdrawn, and the retreating steps were heard. Pulling himself up, with his gun in his hand, Mr. Jordon saw through the opening of the tree, a huge snow covered log lying on the ground not far away. Presently a dark head loomed above the log, the eyes showing like balls of finnel. Taking deliberate aim he fired, and the head disappeared.

He instantly reloaded his gun, and started to get out of the tree, to see what the beast was, when looking again about the log, there like a dread phantom, was still the huge head with the fiery eyes.

Mr. Jordon was bewildered. Were his senses leaving him, or were his eyes playing him a trick?

He was a dead shot, and he had heard the crash of the ball as it hit the animal, and had seen it fall.

Again taking aim he fired, and again came the dull thud of a falling body. He again reloaded his gun, and straining his eyes watched anxiously to see if it would reappear.

But all was silent, and nothing more was seen.

and straining his eyes watched anxiously to see if it would reappear.

But all was silent, and nothing more was seen. Sleep by this time was banished from his eyes, and he awaited the dawn. It came soon, and as quickly as he could see, he climbed out of the tree and took his way cautiously toward the spot where he had seen the animal.

There, lying on snow, were two immense bears, both dead, killed at once by his unerring shot. While examining them he found on the foot of the larger of the two a ragged sear, where he had been caught in a trap and from which he had pulled himself loose.

Mr. Jordon knew then that it was a said.

self loose.

Mr. Jordon knew then that it was an animal who had been most daring in his attacks upon the cattle and sheep of the settlement, and who had baffled every attempt to capture him. The smaller one was evidently his mate.

He then looked about him to discover his whereabouts, and taking a few steps towards a small open space in the woods, he looked from the hill into the valley below, and there, with its housetops bathed in the morning sun, lay the village of Harrodsburg.

THAT LOST YEAR.

BY ALICE RUTH MOORE.

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darkened his sunny It was the gay holiday season in New Orleans and the fun and frolicof Mardi-Gras were at their height. The principal thoroughfares ere thronged with pleasure seeking people; shrill voiced fakirs were crying out their

wares, small boys were blowing horns of various degrees of discord. and fire crackers were popping on every side.

As the tumult outside increased, the impatient expression deepened on the young man's face. It was vexatious beyond expression. This evening of evenings, when he would have given worlds to have been by his pretty sweetheart's side enjoying the scene with her, and making merry with the rest of the light-hearted throng, to be held here away beyond banking hours to make up delayed accounts, was in-

deed a hardship.

But the work must be done, and he certainly could utter no audible complaint, since his superior in the bank sat by his side, working as hard as himself, and absorbed in pages of the big ledger which lay open

Duvall rose suddenly and went to the window which looked out upon the street, as he did so, the scowl vanished and in its place an amused smile played about his mouth. Strutting slowly and pompously down the street came a queer figure. It was short

about his mouth. Strutting slowly and pompously down the street came a queer figure. It was short and stout, clad in innumerable skirts and shawls of all colors, men's shoes on the feet, the head wrapped round and round with a many folded, dirty, white veil and a face dusted with flour that shook itself upon the topmost black shawl. On one arm hung a huge tin can; suspended from this were three or four coffee-pots which jangled together as the figure approached. On the other arm was a big basket crammed with broken food and a big, greasy bundle was clasped against the breast. Divall recognized Kate West, a figure familiar for many years to all denizens of down-town New Orleans.

She was a mystery.

No one knew much about her, but it went as a sort of tradition that once she had been a great beauty, and that an unfortunate love affair had estranged her from her people, and had finally made of the former belle a mental and physical wreck, dependent upon charity for the necessaries of life. Poor, crazy, half-drunken creature that she was, people pitied and were kind to her, after a fashion, though she was an unfailing target for the stones and missiles of all the children between Common street and the Old Basin. Some cloudy remembrance of former grandeur must have stirred still faintly in her brain, for every Sunday morning she presented herself promptly at ten o'clock mass at the Jesuit church and there in solemn state, knelt, stood and performed all the necessary genufications with the fashionably dressed throng.

throng.

The smile vanished from Duvall's face and unconsciously he withdrew simself further behind the curtains to watch the retreating figure.

"Confound it all," he muttered, "someone ought to

interfere with those children, it's a shame," for Kate was surrounded by at least a score of boys of all ages—worst types of gaminism—who danced and leered at her, tripped before and behind, shot off crackers under her nose, tied "nigger chasers" on her shawl and played such tricks as only American Arabs can invent.

For a few minutes after the noisy troop had disappeured, Duvall stood listlessly gazing out the window, suddenly it seemed to him that the room was unusually quiet. He remembered hearing a slight sigh some moments ago, and then a cessation of the noise of turning pages; while idly wondering if his employer had fallen asleep, a strange, shrill noise as of filing struck his ear; hastily pulling aside the heavy curtain which had concealed him, he glanced at the large desk.

The head of the President had fallen across it, a stream of blood flowed from a dagger wound at the back of the neck across the books and upon the floor; one man was working diligently at the safe lock, the other—Duvall saw all this at one glance, then he was senseless.

The next morning papers were full of the "Atroctous Crime!" "Horrible, Ghastly Deed!" "Born

The next morning papers were full of the "Atroccious Crime!" "Horribly, Ghastly Deed!" "Bold Burglary!" etc., in all the startling type and seemingly necessary adjuncts of reports of crimes. Duval, at home, lay in bed, alternating heavy stupor with wild delirium. The policeman had found him that night stretched beside the window with a cruel bruise on his head, and at the desk, the lifeless form of the president. The safe was open and empty and despite the most careful detective search no clue to the murderer could be obtained. It was a nine day's wonder, and then, after the fashion of all sensations, it was forgotten save in banking circles.

Merrill Duval lay hovering between life and death for many months, and when at last he rose from bed he was a mere wreck of his former felf. He remembered no one but his mother. Even the girl whom he she sought to call herself to his remembrance, he put her one side as though she was a stranger. They asked him questious about that fateful night, he only shook his head and muttered blankly; they brought him newspapers containing an account of the erime, he read them indifferently, nor did he seem to notice the fact that his own name figured prominently therein. To all questions which they put him, be only replied, "Kate, Kate," in a monotonous repetition.

the fact that his own name figured prominently therein. To all questions which they put him, he only replied, "Kate, Kate," in a monotonous repetition.

The doctors shook their heads, who was Kate? afid why did he so persistently refer to her? His mother positively affirmed that he knew no one by that name. One day when someone asked him to write his name he signed himself "J. West," it was a strange complication, no one could understand it.

The long year dragged itself away, summer's heat and bloom softened into autumn haze and again the crisp days of the Southern winter came. Merrill had not grown one whit better, but still lingered about the house, maintaining the same indifference to all outward things, caring for nothing save to stand at windows and gaze and gaze into the street until it seemed as though he would turn to stone. All efforts to rouse his interest or make him recognize anyone were unavailing, he would only shake his head and mutter something about Kate.

Again the holiday time had come, the streets were once more lively with the throngs of pleasure-seekers. Some few persons passing the gloomy bank would shudder instinctively as the memory of last years's crime came over them. In Duvall's little home on Roman street a small group had gathered about the fire in the dusk of early twilight, and some fatile attempts to be merry were made, but in vain, for the shadow of that other evening, just a year before, hung over the spirits of all.

Suddenly Duvall grew restless, and rising walked to the front window and took up his old position of watching with strained, eager attention. The shouts of children, barking of dogs and popping of firecrackers were heard in the distance, moving nearer and nearer and suddenly around the corner came the old familiar figure of Kate West, followed by the usual pack of gamins and dogs.

Duvall became very much excited, he threw up the sash and leasned out.

"Kate, oh Kate, is that you?" he cried.

The half-crazy woman stopped and blinked up at him with her bleagins a

Three days later, Will Baker, one of the cleverest scoundrels in the country was in the Parish Prison charged with the robbery of the bank and the murder of the president which for a year had been such a mystery. At the trial the lawyers for the defence objected to the testimony of a man who had been practically insane, but the mass of evidence was so overwhelming, that towards the end the prisoner confessed.

Duvall's mind soon grow to a second or the prisoner confessed.

fessed.

Duvall's mind soon grew as strong as ever it was, but the twelve months that intervened between the robbery and the sudden return of his senses always have remained a blank. The only time that the happy face of his wife is clouded or he seems at all distressed, is when reference is made to events which transpired during that lost year, of which he has no knowledge.

LOOKING UNDER THE BED.

BY HELENA H. THOMAS.

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girl I ever knew, and yet she had from childhood he habit of so many of her sex-looking under the bed for a man. Let me tell you what she at last discovered. My

friend Miss H. many years ago, left her home in the North for Boston. She was accompanied by her father-Arriving at the "Hub" late at night they went at once to the rooms assigned them. They were removed at some distance one from the other, but my friend did not shrink from being left alone, though that was to be her first experience sleeping in a hotel

I will tell the story in the words of Miss H., as this is no fancy sketch.

"I quite enjoyed the novelty of being alone in a strange hotel; after father left me I read for an hour or two and then prepared for bed. I am never timid, but cling to my childish habit, so looked under the bed, though I had not the most remote idea of finding the man I had been looking for so long, but a real flesh and blood man would hardly have given me the shock I received, at seeing an old style coffin big enough to hold me.

"Well, you know I am not one of the 'screamy' sort, but as I gazed at that thing I trembled as never What to do I did not know, for at first I did not contemplate sleeping over it. I looked about the room for some way of communicating with the office, but found the call bell broken. Then I opened my door, but it was past midnight and I saw no one, and

I knew not in which direction my father was. Going back to my room I seated myself to think it out, and said to myself at last: 'I have always boasted of my courage, now is the time to show it. If that coffin is empty it cannot harm me, and if it has an occupant it cannot be a living one, so in either case I am safe,' so without again looking under the bed I bounded into it.

"Sieep? No. I must admit, that my eyes seemed to have forgotten how to stay closed. They were wide open looking at that coffin under me. And I made a new discovery. I too had nerves, and found they were not a desirable possession. At last I said, 'This will never do, I must sleep,' and I then resorted to a never failing means of putting myself to sleep. You know my passion for algebra. Well, when I am wakeful and need sleep, I place before my mind's eye a difficult task, and trying to solve it all memory of 'coffin' and nerves vanished, and I knew no more until daylight.

"Arising I again looked under my bed to make sure it was not a dream, but there it was in all its gruesomeness, even daylight could not soften the hideousness of it.

"My father soon rapped at my door, being a physician he seldom knows what fear is, so I said laughingly, 'Look under the bed papa.' He did so, and man that he is, he actually screamed as he did so. Turning to me with wide open eyes he said, 'Child, did you sleep over that?' 'Why yes,' I said, 'it didn't harm me.' Then I told him how I could not raise any one, and how I reasoned it quat and went to bed, etc.

"My father was very indighant. He left me, breakfast forgotten for the time being, and soon returned with the landlord. The latter was much excited and said as he entered the room, 'I must see it to believe it.'

"He was convinced beyond a doubt that it was no imaginary coffin. As he looked under the bed he

said as he entered the room, 'I must see it to believe it.

"He was convinced beyond a doubt that it was no imaginary coffin. As he looked under the bed he said with a shudder, 'No money would have tempted me to have slept over that thing.' He rushed to the office and soon returned with the clerk who explained that a stranger had a few days before been found dead in the room, and that the undertaker had found the coffin first sent too short, had ordered another; in the meantime No. I was shoved under the bed and entirely lost sight of until I made the discovery.

"The landlord complimented me in the highest terms for what he was pleased to term 'unheard of courage in a 16 year old girl.' Nevertheless, I do not care to ropeat the experience of finding a coffin under my bed."

I have found a plan that you can earn money fast, by using a certain tool made by me. Rich people will not use it, for they are too proud, but people who can get about \$75.00, can make \$5.00 a day, and if you work pretty hard you can make \$10.00 a day. I wont sell but one in a place, so I don't want but one person to write to me from a town. The first one that writes me, I will tell all about it. I charge 10 cts. in postage to tell you, so everybody will not write for one.

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Annie Laurie.
Auld lang syne.
Auld Grey Kirk.
Alice Gray.
Bye and bye.
Believe me. Believe me.
Betsey Baker.
Bryan O'Lynn.
Bryan Boru.
Bobbin' around.
Bonnie Doon.
Bonnie Dundee.
Billy boy.
Bygone hours.
Beware. Bygone hours.

Beware.

Beware.

Belle Brandon.

Belle Brandon.

Farewell, ladies.

Farewell, ladies.

Farewell, addes.

Farewell, addes.

Farewell, addes.

Forget me not. Garibaldi hymn Girls and Boys. Giles Scroggins Gilderov. Bonny boat. Bob up screnely. Blue eyed Mary. Brave Wolfe. wolfe.
Bachelor's fare.
Bessy's mistake.
Canaan.
Caller Herrin'.
Captain Jink Captain Jinks.
Captain Megan.
Coal black Rose.
Crooskeen lawn.
Dearest Mae.
Duncan Gray.
Ding dong beil.
Dolly Varden.
Dream on.
Do not mingle.
Tream song.
Tream song.
Tream song.
Tream seng.

lideroy. Freen sleeves. Jaffer Grey. Jumbo Chaff. Jome so blest Jull's Victory.

First love

Jim along Josie.
Jim rack corn.
Johnny Sands.
Jack Hatlin.
Junnita.
Killarney.
Kitty Tyrrell.
Kathleen Aroon.
Last night.
Lord Lovell.
Lullaby. Hall's Victory.
Highland Mary.
Highland Mary.
Happy thought.
Harvest home.
Hall Columbia.
Hall Columbia.
Have tiches.
I have riches.
I was postage.
I was po

Money musk.
Ally sweetheart.
Maid of Athens.
Not married yet.
Nell and I.
Nancy Lee.
None can tell.
Oid Tubal Cain.
Oid King Cole.
O ye tears.
O fair dove.
Our fag is there.
Oid Grimes.
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The Ingleside.
The better so.
Thou art mine.
The better so.
Thou art mine.
The try green.
The poschers.
The watchman.
Twilight dews.
The widthman.
The bridge.
The bridge.
The bridge.
The bridge. Old Jee.
Old Fee Dee.
Old King Crow.
Oh, Arabella.
Poor old maids.
Pesky Ike.
Paddy Snap.
Polly. O'Moore Robin Adair. Reel o' bogie. Ruby. Ruby.
Save the boy.
Speak to me.
Shule Agrah.
Sweet Annie.
Speed away.
Shabby genteel
See saw. e saw. eet home. boy, two.

me. We not be not seen that the watermill. Unspoken. Ws, wet, wst. We not behold. Ye merry birds. The nara-boom-ta-ri don of over 600 song w trial subscribers and the not seen the not see

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While mid-winter shuts us in more closely than ever, still our thoughts are not confined, but may roam abroad, visit our friends, and through the medium and through the medium and through the medium and through the medium wanderings of the human mind, which travels swifter than the lightning flash. Even though our bodies may be limited to a few feet of space, and ever so belpless, yet our minds, through the means of books in which others have written of their journeyings, may visit the four quarters of the globe. Our eyes may see many strange and beautiful sights, which imagination will paint almost as vivid as reality. Do not give up your interest in the outer world, dear friends, for the more you can fix your minds on something outside yourselves, so much the easier will your sufferings be to bear. "Look up, not down! do you mind how the tree-top Rejoices in sunlight denied to its roots? And hear how the lark gazing skyward is flooding all earth with its song, while the ground-bird is nute?"

Look forward, not back! 'tis the chant of creation, The chime of the seasons as onward they roll, 'Tis the pulse of the world, 'tis the hope of the ages, 'Tis the voice of the Lord in the depths of the soul,'

"I want to thank those who have remembered me so kindly with letters and other tokens. I will answer those who sent stamps as soon as I am able, but I suder so much. If you knew how much I appreciate, and how much good letters and tokens do me, you would not wait for me to answer. I have none of this world's goods, and am only able to read and write a little; have been entirely confined to my bed five years. Mother and I live alone in a small country place. Please remember me through the lonely winter. May God bless you all.

EMILY M. WHEATON, North Branford, Conn.

"Will: some of the cousins write and send reading

"Will some of the cousins write and send reading to a poor woman who is confined to the house, and alone most of the time? Mrs. E. R. Parker, Box 25, Gladwin, Mich.

on a poor woman who is commed to the house, and alone most of the time?

Mrs. E. R. Parker, Box 25, Gladwin, Mich.

"Thanks from a warm, grateful heart for the 109 letters, reading, and other tokens of kindness from the cousins. I am sorry that I cannot reply to all. Oh, dear, kind frinds, if you could only know what joyous emotions it stirs in our lonely hearts to read such words of sympath, you would consider yourselves well paid for the trouble of writing 'only a letter.' I am now taking treatment at the Mineral Hot Springs, near the Membres river, and am improving greatly. I suppose that these springs are the best known remedy for rheumatism. But the furnished accomodations here are very few and poor. The building is adobe, and consists of 4 rooms about 11 by 12 ft., with dirt floors, a small window and a tiny fireplace in each, a half dozen bath-rooms, with wooden tubs, built like borse, doors so narrow that one has to turn sldewise to get into them, and dirt floors. I could not be taken into one of them, and have to live in tents, and have a pool fixed with a tent over it, in which to bathe. The place is managed by an Italian, who seems to have no conception of what is needed in the way of accommodations by invalids and the general public. Some white men are trying to get control of the place, and if they do, there will soon be better arangements. Although the local papers praise this as an Eldorado for consumptives, I would not advise a consumptive to come here to make his home. He would only spend his money for high living expenses, with no assurance of benefit. Catarrh is more prevalent here than in any other p.a.c where I ever resided. All kinds of business is very duil.

MARY WHITAKER BARFELL, Lake Valley, N. Mex.

"Is there room for me totel my story? I have been laid up with rheumatism for 15 years, and for the

MARY WHITAKER BARFELL, Lake Valley, N. Mex.

"Is there room for me to test my story? I have been laid up with rheumatism for 15 years, and for the last 4, nearly helpless. I have a wheel chair, and sit and sleep in it. Sometimes my husband and son lift me on to the lounge for a change. I am 62, but don't hink I am old, for if it was not for my helpless state, I would be as young as anybody. I am of a cheerful disposition, but I get out of patience sometimes. I would be glad of reading, or anything to pass the time; I am a great lover of literature. I pass man time; I am a great lover of literature. I pass man weary, heavy hours, for our circumstances will not admit of any extras, not even medicine always, and I have so much pain. I often wonder why I am left here, but it is for some wise purpose, and may the Lord help me to bear it.

Mrs. A. D. Berry, Rockaway, New Jersey.

"I am a sufferer from spinal disease; when going to

Mrs. A. D. Berry, Rockaway, New Jersey.

"I am a sufferer from spinal disease; when going to my work one day, my foot slipped, and I fell, hurting my back so that I have been an invalid ever since. Now I am dependent on others, so that I cannot have many things that I would like, and need. I would like to sik the cousins if they have any bits of ribbin, silks, lace, floss, or any of the thousand things that we women turn into fancy work, and would send them to me. I am starting a sewing class to make both useful and fancy things, and the money which we earn is for missions. I think I cau serve two ways in this, teaching the children to sew, and helping to spread the good tidings. Remnants of cotton or muslim would also be gladly received. Address,

314 Hibernia Bible Mission, Port St, Charles,

"Dear friends, as I lie gazing out of the window of

Montreal.

"Dear friends, as I lie gazing out of the window of my country home this morning, thinking of you all, I am glad to be one of your number, not only to receive your cheer, but I trust that I may also be able to encourage you. I thank every one who answered my letter in May COMPORT. I have made many pleasant acquaintances, and it has shown me what avery large circulation our paper has. For 9 years I have had muscular rheumatism, so that I have had to lie in bed for weeks at a time; but for the last year I have been confined to my bed, as I have been much worse. But now, thank the dear Lord, I am better, and can sometimes walk about the house. Dear friends, do not forget me in these dreary winter days.

Mrs. H. W. Brown, Kinde, Mich.

"Dear Shut ins. I have a tender feeling for you all."

not forget me in these dreary winter days.

Mrs. H. W. Brown, Kinde, Mich.

"Dear Shut-ins, I have a tender feeling for you all, having passed through the furnace of afficient myself. I have been a great sufferer for 8 years, confined to my bed nearly all the time. It has seemed that my sufferings were more than I could stand, but God never puts on us more than we are able to bear. I have been so near death that it seemed as if I almost feit the chilly waters, but God was with me in all my affliction. Three years ago God manifested His power by raising me from a bed of pain, where I had been 5 years, in answer to the prayers of many friends. For some wise purpose, I suppose, I was not restored to perfect health. I believe that all things are possible with God, if we would trust Him right. Dear afflicted ones, let us be cheerful, and when we feel the burden of life, and are racked with pain, remember the dear Saviour's promises to His children. Let us go to Him, and tell Him all our troubles, and ask Him to bless us, and give us patience to bear this weary life. If we are shut is from this world, we are not shut in from the eternal sunshine of God's love.

ELIZA W. BOORK, Hurricane, Ark.

"Some time ago I wrote a letter asking for help and approached in my suffering condition, and to-day I

"Some time ago I wrote a letter asking for help and sympathy in my suffering condition, and to-day I write humbly thanking those dear ones who opened their hearts so freely to a poor soul. As far as my

afflictions are concerned, I am no better; but each day I gain more faith in the blessed Lord. How happy I am to-night, in my suffering and poverty, when I take up my little Bible and read the blessed promises. I can then sing with a happy heart, 'There is rest for the weary.' I have often heard people say that they shuddered at the thoughts of death; but I feel a sweet peace come over my soul, and can say, walcome, death? both his form of its earthly garb, and put on a robe of pure, spotless white. I do pray God to give me more faith and patience, for I know it cannot be long till I shall be singing sweet praises to God in the bright beyond. What a blessed thought! God so loved us as to prepare a place for us to dwell forever in supreme happiness. I thank God that He sent this affliction upon me, for I now spend day after day in sweet, silent communion and earnest prayer with the blessed Lord. It is the grandest thing in existence that we poor lowly beings can go God in prayer with all our troubles and affliction. Take courage, poor suffering ones, for we shall not always be bound with the heavy chains of affliction. The day is not far off when God will send His angel, and break loose the iron links that keep us here, and then we will be forever free.

Good-bye, my dear friends.

Your affectionate.

Aunt Mineeva.

Good-bye, my dear friends. Your affectionate,

AUNT MINERVA.

THE MARINER'S FRIEND.

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IRST in importance among the mariner's instruments is the Compass. It has been in use many hundreds of years, and, it is claimed, was first invented by that nation from whom so many wonderful discoveries have come—the Chinese. In any event, history states that in 1295 Marco Poli brought the compass, from China to Italy. It is curious to note that, in the tompass, this nation sustains its reputation for doing everything backward, according to European ideas, for the principal point of their compass is south.

The navigators of early used to the compass of the compass of the compass is south.

everything backward, according to European ideas, for the principal point of their compass is south.

The navigators of early times guided their vessels by the stars, but as they made few voyages and generally confined their yourneys to portions of the coast with which they were familiar, they did not require so exact a guide ass was needed in later years.

The compass made the discovery of a new continent possible. Without its aid Columbus must have failed in his purpose. Baffied by new currents, blown about by varying winds, he could never have held to his course "Due West" without a sure guide.

The ship's compass is an entirely different affair from the little pocket compasses which landsmen carry. Those, for instance, which are used in the United States Navy, have a card 7 1-2 inches in diameter which has bar magnets attached to it and which floats in a securely sealed bowl, in a mixture of water and alcohol—the alcohol prevents freezing save at a very low temperature. This bowl swings in gimbals—an arrangement of hinges which keep it level no matter how the vessel rocks—and the whole contrivance is placed within a "binnacle" or brass globe with a glass top, with lanterns at each side to illuminate the card at night. This is mounted on a stand and secured to the deck immediately in front of the wheel, where the helimsman can watch the card continually. There is a mark or line upon the stationary rim of the compass, to indicate the exact position of the ship's bow and stern, and in order to steer the vessel upon a certain course, say north-east for instance, the helmsman turns the rudder until the immovable mark indicating the vessel's head is opposite the point north-east upon the compass card. If the man at the wheel observes that the ship is varying from the course, he so alters the helm as to cause the bow of the ship to again coincide with the point of the compass and in the intervals between each of the pontins and alternal pole were reached the sas at mospheric conditions, and electrical currents, as

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as I already have orders for a number of them.
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Morse & Co.

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The ladies of the M. E. Church wish to raise money that we have pledged for the new church (now being erected) and think we can make something on the Dolls. Send promptly if you please, as we wish to begin work at once, having an entertainment coming on very soon.

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BY ELIZABETH SARGENT CURTIS.

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O cook well one must dress properly.

I don't mean that the quality of the food is affected by what the cook wears, but those who see her about her work relish the dishess she prepares much better if she looks dainty and neat.

The ideal cooking costume has been evolved by the directors of the Boston Cooking School, and it has been adopted by pupils and visitors allike.

This costume goes no farther than the cap and apron. Any dress may be worn, but the apron mest envelop the wearer from neck to foot, and have full in a pron of light print than of dark, and it is prettier made of white, like a barrber's apron of light print than of dark, and it is prettier made of white, like a barrber's apron flush than of dark, and it is prettier made of white, like a barrber's apron of light apron than a dark one, and it is pretty vure norto be worn so long with a bun or have a narrow edge of embroidery. It can be plated and pinned into shape in a few minutes, by the aid of a looking glass, and it will prove most distractingly becoming. It can be unpinned and washed whenever needed. It protects the bair from dust and flying particles of flour, and it also keeps the stray hairs in place, and gives an air of refined neatness to the wearer.

The cook will find it most convenient to have a bolder, hung by a long tape from the beltof her apron on one side, and a small hand towel fastened to the other.

You know how holders will get mislaid, and what a bunt there has to be for one just when it is most needed. It seems sometimes, as my little girl says,

the hair from dust and mying process and sir of refined neatness to the wearer.

The cook will find it most convenient to have a holder, hung by a long tape from the belt of her apron on one side, and a small hand towel fastened to the other.

You know how holders will get mislaid, and what a hunt there has to be for one just when it is most needed. It seems sometimes, as my little girl says, as well, if the older is fasened to the belt of your well, if the older is fasened to the belt of your cooking apron it can't get away from you, and it is there when you want it.

The same thing is true of the towel; you want to wipe your fingers so many times; if you have to go to the roller every time you take many extra steps that might be avoided if the towel was at your side.

And there is another economy. One that is most valuable to every woman; the economy of personal strength. I shall have something more to say about that at another time.

I think I promised to tell you bout the various uses of potatoes and corn did I not?

I wonder if you know the possibilities of these two vegetables, almost the commonest ones we have. For since corn has been so successfully canned it is available in the winter as well as in the summer, and it forms the basis of many a palatable dish.

But to begin with potatoes.

I think the basis of many a palatable dish.

But to begin with potatoes.

It is noted from appear on the family made that it sould often appear on the family made that it sould often appear on the family made that. For a family of three the following proportions will serve, but the quantity should be doubled for more than that, and increased as the demand exists. The amount given here will make something less than a quart of soup.

Use three potatoes, one pint of milk—the richer it is the better for your soup—one teaspoonful of chopped onion, one stalk of celery, or one half teaspoonful of cayen, even the water, and mash them with a fork beating when the will represent years of the interest of the water, and mash them

For this you will use one can of corn, one quart and two gills of milk, three tablespoonsful of butter, two tablespoonsful of flour, one generous tempoonful of salt, one quarter of a teaspoonful of pepper, one tablespoonful of chopped onion, and the yolks of two

Put the corn into a chopping tray or a wooden bowl and mash it as fine as possible, then put it in the double boller, with a quart of milk and cook for fifteen minutes.

Put the butter and chopped onion in a small frying pan, and cook slowly for ten minutes, taking care to

keep the pan where the onion will not brown. Add the flour and cook until it is smooth, stirring constantly, still taking care that the mixture shall not brown. Stir it into the corn and milk, and the seasoning and cook for another ten minutes. Then rub the soup through a strainer, and return to the fire. Beat the yolks of the eggs well, and add to them the two gills of cold milk. Put this mixture into the soup and cook one minute, stirring all the time.

Here is a nice dinner dish that may be made from the green corn in summer, and the canned corn in winter. One quart of raw sweet corn, or a can of corn, one pint of sliced potatoes, a two inch cube of fat salt pork, one onion, one teaspoonful of salt, one saltspoonful of pepper, one large tablespoonful of butter, one pint of milk, six crisped crackers.

When you use the green corn scrape it raw from the cob, and boil the cobs twenty minutes in water enough to cover them; then skim them out. Pare, soak, and scald the potatoes, by pouring boiling water over them.

Cut the cube of pork into small pieces, and fry the onion in it, after slicing it. When the onion is well cooked strain the fat into the kettle with the corn water. Add the potatoes, corn, salt, and pepper. Simmer fifteen minutes, or until the potatoes and corn are tender. Add the putter and milk, and serve very hot with crisped crackers.

In using plain boiling water, in place of the corn water, a pint is sufficient. This dish is known as corn chowder.

To crisp crackers, split them—butter crackers are the best to use—spread them with butter, put them, the buttered side up, into a pan, and brown in a hot oven. They are as nice with oyster stews and vegetables soups as with the chowders.

To come back again to potatoes.

To come back again to potatoes.

There is nothing more delicate for an entire or side dish, then potato croquettes.

Now don't be frightened, there is nothing difficult about making them, and when once you have learned to make and shape and cook potato croquettes, you have virtually so



fifteen cents, and it can be used for potatoes, squash, turnips, every vegetable indeed that needs to be mashed, and it saves strength, time, and labor. Another economy.

But to return to the croquettes, for which we already had the pint of hot mashed potato, you will also require a tablespoonful of butter, half a salt-spoonful of white pepper, a speck of cayenne, half a teaspoonful of sait, half a teaspoonful of celery sait, a few drops of onion juice, and the yolk of one egg. Mix all the ingredients together except the egg, and beat until very light. When slightly cool, add the yolk of the egg, and mix well. Rub through a seive and add a teaspoonful of par.ley, chopped fine. Shape into round smooth balls then with rolls. Roll in fine bread crumbs dip in beaten egg, then roll in bread crumbs again. Fry in smoking hot lard in a frying basket, one minute. Drain and serve in the form of a pyramid.

When you fry use a deep iron or granite kettle, and a wire basket that is small enough to fit down into the kettle. The fat should be hot enough to brown a bit of bread while you count forty. Before you begin to fry the basket should be plunged into the hot fat to grease it, the croquettes should then be placed in it so that they will not touch each other. Hold the handle of the basket with a long fork, and plunge it quickly into the fat, but do not drop the handle, because if the fat should be too hot, the basket can then be raised quickly, so that the contents cannot burn.

After the croquettes are brown hold the basket an instant over the fat shaking it slightly until all the dripping has stopped. Then put the croquettes onto unclazed paper to absorb the fat, and keep them hot until ready to serve.

Anlee way of preparing cold potatoes is to make the dish known a "hashed brown potatoes."

For six people use one quart of cold boiled potatoes cut into small cubes, two tablespoonsful of butter, one of flour, a leve

tablespoonful of salt, half a tea-spoonful of pepper, and one cupful of stock, or of any meat gravy

per, and one cupful of the butter c. the stove in any meat gravy.

Sprinkle half the salt and pepper on the potations of the salt and pepper on the potations, but one tablespoonful of the butter c. the stove in a frying pan, and when it becomes hot, put in the flour. Stir until smooth and brown; then gradually add the stock and the remaising salt and pepper. Cook for three minutes; then add the potatoes, and cook for five minutes, stirring three or four times with a fork, and being careful not to break them.

Now put the second tablespoonful of butter on the stove in another frying pan, and when it becomes hot, turn the potatoes into this pan spreading them lightly. Cook for ten minutes in a rather hot part of the stove, being careful that they do not get burned. When the mixture becomes browned, fold it like an omelet, and turn out on a hot dish.

It is better to have the potatoes a little underdone for this dish, as they will keep their shape.

Still more delicate is the hashed brown potatoes in

for this dish, as they will keep their shape.

Still more delicate is the hashed brown potatoes in cream sauce. Use one quart of cold boiled potatoes, cut into cubes, one slice of onion, two sprigs of parsiey, one slice of carrot, three tablespoonsful of butter, one level tablespoonful of sait, a quarter of a teaspoonful of pepper, two scant tablespoonsful of flour, one pint of milk, and one cupful of grated bread crumbs.

Beat the flour and two tablespoonsful of the butter

together, in a saucepan. Add the onion, parsley, carrot, and half the sait and pepper. Heat the milk and pour it gradually upon the contents of the saucepan; then set the pan on the stove. When the milk begins to boil, set the pan back where the milk will only simmer for five minutes. Season the potatoes with the remainder of the sait and pepper, and put them in a shallow dish. Strain the hot sauce over them, sprinkle the crumbs over the dish, and dot them with the remaining tablespoonful of butter. Set the dish in a rather hot oven, and cook for twenty minutes.

I think you will like stuffed potatoes for luncheon or for tea. Bake potatoes of equal size; when done and still hot, cut off a small pleee from the end of each potato. Scoop out the inside. Mash, and mix with it half the quantity of cooked meat which has been finely chopped and highly seasoned with salt, pepper, and a bit of marjoram or summer savory, mix with butter or cream, and fill the skins, which must have been carefully emptied, to a little above the top of the opening. Set in the oven to brown the tops, then serve at once. Any cold meat that you chance to have may be used.

Next month I shall tell you some ways to use macaroni, and give you some receipts for meat cooking, using inexpensive cuts.

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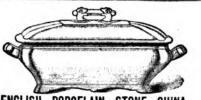
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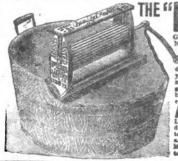
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Copyright, 1883, by the Paragement of a little while, children, let's talk about the lith of February, Valentine's Day. Why is it ealled Valentine's Day it is hard to say exactly. It is generally supposed that the custom derived its originfrom St. Valentine, a bishop who was martyred in Rome many centuries ago, but there is no proof of it. It is most probable that the choosing of Valentines is a relic of nature-religion, a primitive religion in North-Western Europe centuries and centuries ago, and that its sprang from a recognition of the peculiarity of the season when, about this time of year the birds choose their mates and thence came the custom of young men and maidens choosing their Valentines or special loving friends for that day. Let us follow the ancient custom the 14th, and this is the way will do it. All the boys and girls in the neighborhood buy a pretty valentine and put his or her name in it. Then, on the evening of the 18th all meet at a house or hall, and put the boys' valentines in a box and the girls' in another. The girls will, one by



one, take a valentine from the boys' box and the boys from the girls' box, and the name of the girl or boy on the valentine will be the valentine of the girl or boy the next day. Of course you can send valentines to girls and boys who cannot be present. There will be lots of fun and surprise if you will try this old custom Valentine's Eve.



BEAN BOWLING. HERE ING.
HERE is an hour's game at which you can become right smart, if serious. A girl and boy as partners against another girl and boy, take 25 beans and snaps it across

each. The girl takes a bean and snaps it across a smooth table at the openings in opposing boy's hand. Every miss goes to opponent, every one put through, opponent gives back to the girl's partner and one more sides. When the first girl has snapped all her beans (25), then the second girl snaps at the opening in her boy opponent's hand. When the boys have repeated the effort, count up beans and those which have

boys have repeated It is not silly—try it!



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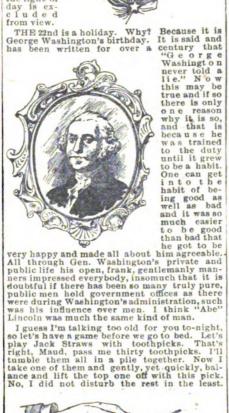
I HAVE always been able to remember forms, events and names as well as numbers and words by associating my eyes with something familiar or interesting. Yes, children, when I thought I should miss certain parts of my lessons my eyes always pictured the ugly spots of the pages where the words or figures were located and I could help my mind out to a correct solution. The words concave or convex bothered me until I drew this picture.

Better train your eyes and memory than to jot things down in a book. My father could mentally take seven measures of a tapering mast at different parts and never get them wrong. By cultivating this sense, when he became a public man he often corrected speakers for quoting wrong dates or misquoting authors.

SINGULAR THINGS IN NATURE.



ether. Here is another curious fact. If you fact. If you were in a well fifty feet deep, at mid-day, you could look up to the heavens and see the stars though the sun were though the sun we re shining. The reason being because your horizonline, is diminished and the light of day is excluded from view.





Now the next and so on. Ha! I removed sixteen of them and jostled the rest. Now Maud you try it. Good, there's one. Gently now—that's right, go slow, very slow; you are very patient. Good! It has taken you it minutes. Yes, Frank, you try it, while I put a log on the fire, it seems cold here.

Did not do it, Frank? Well, try it to-morrow night. Perhaps I'll have another game ready

for you before St. Patrick's Day, the 17th of next month, and when the March winds are blowing on sea and land and the trees are waking up from their winter slumber, stretching and shaking out the chills, we will devote an evening to the bran new game.

A funny story?

Well, here is an old one, but it may be new to you and at least a million of Comfort children. Forrest, the great actor, a half century ago, used to take a long walk alone after his performances, for the purpose, he used to say, "of resting my nerves." One night, after playing the part of King Richard III at the Federal Street Theatre, Boston, he strolled down to the wharves and as he approached a huge woodpile he thought he saw the figure of a man creep along beneath its shadow. Forrest was about to shont out to the man in his terrific bass voice, but concluded to wait the man's intentions. Suddenly the man jumped at Forrest who, instead of being surprised, remarked in a high-keyed voice:

"Pray sir, who are you?"

"I am a highwayman and want your money," replied the man.

"Well sir," fairly roared Forrest, in his most terrible deep voice, "I'm a pirate and haven't got any."

The highwayman, in great fright, took to his

got any."
The highwayman, in great fright, took to his

heels.
There, put up your blocks and books and scamper off to bed. Good-night, my treasures, sweet sleep and happy waking.
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THAT WOMAN'S CURSE.

BY SAM DAVIS.

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"Will you be kind enough to tell me where Mrs Ainsworth lives?" Turning I saw a face at my elbow

that belonged to the sad voice I had just heard.

It was that of a man who had some heavy burden on his mind. His eyes looked into mine, searching for an answer and beseeching for it.

"I know no such person," I replied, preparing to move on. The stranger grasped my arm, "You certainly must have seen her somewhere. She was medium height with gray eyes and brown

"I can't keep track of all the women in San Fran

cisco who have gray eyes and brown hair," I replied impatiently.

"She lived on Mission street once and-"

"I have no time to bother with either you or Mrs. Ainsworth."

I dismissed him roughly, but as I looked back the tears were coursing down his cheeks and the face, which was stamped with care, bore the impress of hunger as well. But what struck me as odd was his which was stamped with care, more one impress or hingers are like. He were a broadcolm with his features. He were a broadcolm with his features. He were a broadcolm with this features. He were a broadcolm with the story of a long his puls, shrunken features told the story of a long feat. There was nothing rule in the mark address. He was polite, may almost supplicating in his request to me to reveal the whereabouts of the woman of the mark and the story of a long feat. There were all the whereabouts of the woman of the broadcolm of the mark and the story of a long feature of the story of th dress, when taken into consideration with his features. He were a broadcloth suit, immaculate linen

the throat in a heavy cloak, trimmed with rich fur, yet he shivered with cold and trembled from head to foot.

"I told you a year ago I did not know the woman."

He peered into my face a moment and pressing his hands to his temples turned away in despair. Determined to solve the mystery of the man's fruitless search for Mrs. Ainsworth, I hastened after him; but he only quickened his footsteps as I appreached and was soon lost in the darkness. I passed the rest of the night in inventing theories for this atrange man's actions, and tried to reconcile his well-to-do attire with his pinched face and lust of hunger in his eyes. If ever a face carried with it the eternal stamp of sorrow it was this man's. The autograph of suffering and remores was written broad and strong across it. Every line told its separate story and the whole was a record of misfortune that made a bulky volume of human misery. But the more I pondered over some lucky solution of the enigma the more was I lost in a maze, and again I was compelled to reluctantly relinquish it.

A year later I was again in San Francisco, pursuing my vocation as a report

call on John Goldweight, California street, and interview him on a matter connected with a financial crisis pending in the stock market. He was one of the leading capitalists of San Francisco and authority on all matters of finance. I found him at home scated in his parlor and surrounded by his family. He received me with condescending forbearance which men of capital generally assume toward members of other professions. He talked volubly on the subject under discussion and in the midst of the interview the clock struck the half hour. As the stroke died in the air he lifted his glance to the mantle and his wife's eyes rested anxiously on his features. Silently he rose from his chair and starting for the hall began putting on his overcoat. His wife followed quickly and placing her hand upon his shoulder said, imploringly, "Are you going out tonight?" "I am."

hall began putting on his overcoat. His wife followed quickly and placing her hand upon his shoulder said, imploringly, "Are you going out tonight?"
"I am."
"Then I must be at your side; if you will not tell me the secret of your absence from home every Christmas. I myself must solve it."

He turned and looked her full in the face for nearly a minute. The chidren stood staring at the couple in the hallway. With the tears welling in her eyes she begged him to say what business took him out in the storm in the night. Disengaging her arms, which were about his neck, by main strength he pushed her roughly back, and with a moan she sank down in the hallway. As the maid of the house rushed to pick up her mistress, I realized how undesirable would be my presence and stepping over the woman's body in the threshold I followed Goldweight down the steps. He took my arm as I reached him and we walked together toward Market street in the face of a searching wind that made me button my coat about me. I refrained from conversation and neither spoke a word for several blocks. It was near the Baidwin Hotel that he paused an instant and stepping up to a man who was hurrying past us stopped him with:

"Can you tell me where I can find Mrs. Missworth?"

I recied back from my companion and stood there mute with astonishment. It was the man I had met twice before hunting for the Ainsworth woman. There was no mistaking him. In the house not half sm hour before his face had worn a cheerful expression that told of content and good living, but now as he turned it toward me it was the same that I had seen previously, clouded with the shadow of remorae and care whose presence I had tried in vain to solve. The must have been glad to leave him; yet as the man hour before his face had worn and heather with a terror for an instant only, for the news gathering instinct was strong upon me at once, and I determined now to fathom the secret of his life. So I pulled him newsy from the man he had accosted, although it was hardly necessary as the st

walk.

"If you'll help me find Mrs. Ainsworth there is no request that you may make that I will not grant."

"Where did she live when you last heard of her?"

"In a house on Mission street."

"Do you recollect the number?"

"There is no necessity for that, the house is not there now."

"If I knew the number the house used to have it would ald me in my search."

"I tell you it's no use to try and find it that way, I've tried."

"Let us step into the restaurant in

"Yes, when I reached the corner I repented and went back but the house was not there. I wandered in the street all night, but it was gone, the house, the number, everything."

"This is only an hallucination, man, come with me."

"I have tried again and again, it is part of the curse
that I will never find her. Every Christmas I get
colder and hungrier and the torture is more than I
can tell to mortal man. I cannot mingle with my
family on Christmas, and my wife is almost beside
herself with anxlety as to my whereabouts and the
cause of my absence."

As we walked along we overtook a happy throng of bright faced children, with their laughter rippling everywhere. There was a nipping wind in the street [CONCLUDED ON PAGE 7.]

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THE GIANT OXIE CO., 226 Willow Street, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

THAT WOMAN'S CURSE.

[CONCLUDED PROM PAGE 6.]

but they did not mind it for they were bound for the Christmas eve festivities in a church whose great towers toomed just ahead. We paused at the entrance and my companion looking up saw the glow of lights, whose wealth of color was filtered through the windows of stained glass. A warm breath seemed to come from within, freighted with the scents of evergreen and the indistinguishable hum and prattle of children's voices.

"Take me away from here for God's sake,"said my companion as he passed his hands before his eyes. "The sight of all this happiness makes me shudder." As he turned away the soft notes of the organ stole from the sanctuary and a moment later there floated out the angelle voices of the choir, blending in that exquisite symphony that ebbs and flows from the hearts and lips of children when they sing their Christmas suthems. It was such music as might cause the scraphs from Heaven to pause enthralled, but Goldweight begged me to take him beyond the reach of the voices, which, to his ears, was like the wal of some hounded spirit bearing along with it the fe all curse of Mrs. Ainsworth. As the music swelled from within and seemed to fill all space, Goldweigh, with a tearful oath, plunged into the crowd and went down the street. I soon hurried after him but he was lost in the crowd.

Some months later I called at Mr. Goldweight's effice on California street with some important information.

"Mr. Goldweight, I have some private business

"Mr. Goldweight, I have some private business

office on California steet with some important into the control of the control of

Once more the bells told the story of the infant King of man from palpitating spires. It was Christmas eve and I wended my way to the Goldweight's mansion. A few seconds after the half hour had struck he emerged from the door of his residence, sneaking out like a burglar and stealing down the steps on tiptoe. I shadowed him for several blocks, and as he mingled with the crowd I kept a couple of paces behind him. As he made his way along the street his frame became bent, his step haiting while as he buttomed his great coat around him he shivered with the cold. Suddenly he laid his hand on the shoulder of a man who-was walking near him and asked antiously, "Oan you tell me where I can find Mrs. Ainsworth?" The man shook his head and passed on. I stepped to Goldweight's side. "I can take you to Mrs. Ainsworth."

As he turned he recognized me and at once I placed my arms about the poor fellow, for he was recling in his tracks like a drunken man.

"Come with me, it is only a little way from here," I continued.
His lips moved, but his breath came in gasps and

body clae's, we wended our way towards Goldweight's home. His heart was as light and his step as clastic as a boy's, and when a beggar on Market street extended his hand for charities he dropped a twenty in it and then slapped his thigh as he passed on, "aint this just great? This is the biggest interest on money I ever got. You invest a twenty and you get fifty dollars worth of pleasure in a second. That's what I call proper interest on investment." "And yet," I said, "you've been content all this time with five or six per cent a year." "But I've been dead all these years, you see, I've been a shriveled, dried up financial mummy, laid away in the catacombs of Pine street, but now I'm a resurrected man and I'm going to enjoy myself the rest of my days."

Here we were in sight of the Goldweight mansion and he insisted that I should spend the balance of the night at his liouse. When we reached it everything was dark inside, and the silence and gloom that hung over it was in strange contrast to the light, laughter and merry-making that held possession of the other houses of the wealthy on either side of it. I excused myself on the plea of urgent business, for it seemed to me that such a family reunion should not be marred by the presence of a stranger. But I hung round the neighborhood, and inside of half an hour every window in the place glowed with illumination, and if the family were not enjoying themselves then I very much mistook the sounds of good cheer that came from within.

The transformation of Goldweight from a grasping miserly, cent percent, money accumulator, to a bluff, hearty, generous souled, old spendthrift, became the nine day's wonder of Pine street. And on the following week there was an entry made at the Recorder's office, in which J in Goldweight deeded a certain lot on Mission street to Mrs. Helen Ainsworth for the consideration of one dollar, and the next time I rode past the place in a horse-car I failed to recognize the house at first, as the carpenters and painters had wrought such chang "Come with me, it is only a little way from here," I continued.

"His lips moved, but his breath came in gasps and he seemed unable to articulate. He clutched my arm as we turned down towards Mission street and reached the door of the poverty stricken house, the one that Goldweight always insisted he could never find. All these years, the rent collector's foot had never crossed the threshold, nor had there been any repairs. While the adjoining houses were bright and smart with paint, this building was distinguished from the rest by a neglected, weather beaten air. The blinds hung askew, the door knob was cracked and old clothes supplanted broken panes of glass.

"This is the place," said Goldweight in a whisper. As we knocked a woman came to the door. When Goldweight's eyes met hers they both flushed but neither spoke and we walked sliently into the sitting room. Goldweight did not seem to notice the proferred chair and stood gazing fixedly at the mantel-piece where some stockings hung, precisely as they did six years before. Then Goldweight turned towards the woman and the two stood there gazing at each other for several minutes. Then Mrs. Ainsworth putting out her hand advanced a step or two towards him and he shook it in a dazed way.

"Mr. Goldweight you are welcome to this house."

"Mrs. Goldweight you are welcome to the house of the wicked, but when the good call for the vengeance of Heaven to right their wrongs, the malediction becomes a prayer to the ear of God. Yours has been answered with such terrible results that I feel that a full knowledge of them would insure your unqualified forgiveness."

"I know it all from your friend here," replied Mrs. Ainsworth, and sinking on her knees she lifted her

"I know it all from your friend here," replied Mrs. Ainsworth, and sinking on her knees she lifted her hands to Heaven with so fervent an appeal, that I bowed my head and Goldweight sank on his knees healds her.

beside her.

As they knelt there praying, the music of the bells stole into the room. The first note caused Goldweight to pause an instant to listen, and as the bell was answered by scores of others from every quarter of the city, such a look of ecstacy came over his face that it was plain to see that the melody of Christmas chimes was no longer a hateful discord to his ears. Then the soft cadence of children's voices swelled upon the night air.

"Wreath the holly, twine the bay, Christ was born on Christmas day."

Christ was born on Christmas day."

Rising to his feet, he lifted the woman with him and there seemed to be a joy in both hearts to which neither could possibly give any expression. Then the old business habits of the man come back to him. "Bring me pen and ink, quick."

There was some trouble about this, as writing materials are never readily found in the houses of the poor. But she found it at last and scraped the rust and corroded ink from the pen.

"Your first name, madam," he said."

"Helen."

"Helen."
And pulling a check-book from his pocket he

Pay to the order of Helen Ainsworth, \$5,000.

Pay to the order of Helen Ainsworth, \$5,000.

JOHN GOLDWRIGHT.

The check was on the Nevada Bank, and when he had written it, he looked about for a blotting pad, but there was no such luxury there and after waving it gently in the air for a few moments, he thrust it

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across the table to her, and laying back in his chair, burst into a loud laugh. The first real hearty one he had enjoyed for years. When Mrs. Ainsworth saw the check and realized what it meant, her head sank down upon it and she burst out into a regular old-fashioned crying spell. This was kept up so long that Goldweight seemed alarmed and he whispered in my ear, "If she don't quit that pretty soon she'll spoil the check was in such a condition that nobody about the check was in such a condition that nobody about the Nevada Bank would have thought of cashing it without first showing it to Mr. John Mackay and asking his advice about it. Goldweight picked it up, held it to the light critically, and remarked that she had made a pretty mess of it. Then he begged to be allowed to write another one, saying that he would retain the first as a souvenir. So he thrust the tearstained check into his vest pocket, and the second check he placed on the mantelpiece to dry, remarking with a chuckle, that it would be above the water line.

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Birds choose their mates February 14th.

The Amethyst is the lucky stone for those born in February.

This is the month in which to start bulbs for window blossoming.

"The Salem Witch," a story by Miss Helen M. Winslow, one of the bright women writers of the country, will be published in the next issue of Comport. It is very clever and original, and the attention of the readers is specially called

The editor of COMFORT calls attention to the feast of good things that is presented this month. Mr. Davis' story is strong and conveys a forcible moral. The Nutshell Stories are unusually good, and the various departments are carefully and interestingly handled. It is the intention to make improvement visible each month, never being quite satisfied until the highest standard is reached. Every member of every household is appealed to, from the child to the grandparents.

The recent gift of a million dollars to the University of Chicago, in addition to his previous princely donations, by John D. Rockefeller of New York, is a welcome exception to the general practice of the country's great millionaires, and an encouraging sign. And it is a most practical recognition of the fact that education of the masses is the surest way of reliev-ing poverty and of elevating the standard of American citizenship. Such deeds cannot fail to impress upon the nation that labor and capital are not enemies, but mutually depend-

News of the serious illness of the Hon. James G. Blaine is received with genuine regret by the entire country, for it is universally conceded, by men of every political faith, that he is unquestionably and by far the greatest statesman of the present generation.

Although there is no hope of his recovery, his wonderful vitality has given him a hold of life which few men have possessed, and has battled bravely against a disease before which almost any other man would have succumbed. The sympathies of his friends and of his fellow townsmen are with him and his family at this

Just before the opening of the New Year, a most important conference was held between President Eliot of the Harvard University and the directors of the Harvard Annex, regarding the union of the two. President Eliot, who has been on record as steadily opposing the admission of girls to Harvard, had evidently met with a change of heart. He spoke very favorably of the plan of annexation, and said that the only argument he was prepared to use against it was a financial one. The University was at present quite unable to undertake so large an increase without more funds, but if the Annex could bring \$250,000 as a dower, he would use his influence to have the two institutions made one. The women who had this matter at heart, Mrs. Louis Agassiz, the wife of the famous naturalist, Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer, the ex-president of Wellesley College, and one of the officers of the New Chicago University, and Miss Katherine P. Loring, one of the wealthy and beneficent women of the nation, went at once to work, and the sum is already nearly raised. If this union is consummated, it will be the most important educational movement that the country has ever seen, since the question of the higher education has been agitated.

The sudden death last January, of General Benjamin F. Butler, removes from a wide sphere of usefulness and activity, a man long known to the people of the United States, as a soldier, lawyer, politician and writer.

He was born in Deerfield, New Hampshire, Nov. 5, 1818. His boyhood was passed in the

R's, reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic, at the dis-trict school and doing chores on his father's farm. He earned his own living after he was eleven years old. He was studious and selfreliant, and early showed great independence of thought and action. His father and mother were good old-fashioned New England people. He was a conspicuous figure in the Civil War, and was intrusted with important missions by President Lincoln.

He was many years a member of Congress from Massachusetts, of which State he was governor in 1883, was candidate of people's party for presidency in 1884 and was very successful as a lawyer and politician, but looked upon his military career with the greatest pride. His ancestors were soldiers and his house at Lowell contains the swords and spurs of four generations of his family.

He has probably made more enemies and stronger friends, and been more maligned than any living American. He is reported to have said that he had been called every name under heaven but a fool. He was a man of the people. and made his way from a poor boy to great renown. He was a large-hearted, generous man, and greatly loved in private life. Ever mindful of the widows of our soldiers, in many instances he gave advice and prolonged legal services with no charge whatever.

Many of the cities and larger towns of the

country are organizing "Current Events Clubs." In most places these are exclusively women's clubs, but there is no reason why they should not be made up of both men and women. The only reason why they have been confined to the one sex, is that they are held afternoons, when the men are engaged, and that they are purely educational, and deal with matters with which, presumably, men are already acquainted. The usual way of conducting them is to have one woman of broad education, larger leisure, and opportunity for study, carefully read the daily papers, and cull from them all matters of public interest and present them in a condensed form to the other members, who are thus kept in touch with the large world of affairs, and understand what is the trend of events of importance. After the paper is read questions are asked and discussions follow. Not only are national affairs treated of, but international questions are considered, and the effect of one action upon another is studied. The broadening influence of these clubs is felt wherever they exist. Women get out of the rut of every-day life, and find something of interest beside neighborhood gossip. They come to realize that the place in which each one is set is but a small, an infinitesimal part of the world, and that they cannot judge of events or of persons, by their own dwarfed standard. They learn tolerance and patience. That is the effect it has on them-selves, and it has a reflex influence on those by hom they are surrounded. They can talk intelligently with their husbands and brothers on matters which concern the public welfare; they can better teach the children from the knowl edge which they are acquiring, and they will prove better neighbors just from having this wider outlook, and clearer vision. There is another way of conducting these clubs, which by the way are weekly or fortnightly, as suits by the way are weekly or fortnightly, as suits the convenience of the members. Instead of having one person do the work of hunting up and formulating events, let the members take turns in doing it. In this way each one will have the mental stimulus of study and research. No community is so small that a Club of this kind may not be supported, and if it once is given a foothold, it will remain a permanent institution. Comport tries to give the events as they occur, and studies to instruct. With this paper and a "current events" club, a community should be bright and intelligent beyond the average.

Candlemas Day, February 2nd.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

"If Candlemas Day be bright and fair, The half of winter's to come and mair; If Candlemas Day be wet and foul, The half of winter is gone at Yule."



UNIVERSAL
superstition that
good weather on
February 2nd indicates a long, cold
winter and a bad
crop, and that foul
weather is a good
omen, has lasted
for many ages.
Candlemas is derived
rom the ceremony which

Candlemas is derived from the ceremony which the Church of Rome dic-tates to be observed on this day; namely a bless-ing of candles by the

clergy, and a distribu-tion of them among the people. This was a custom for many centuries, and in many places churches continue to ob-serve it.

and in many places controles continue to observe it.

In Scotland it is an universal practice for children attending school to make small presents of money to their teachers.

The master sits at his desk with an expression of mild civility, and each child lays his offering down before him. The boy and girl who give most are called the King and Queen. A holiday is given them, and, if he be generous, the teacher invests a part of his gifts in sweets which he divides among the children.

The day is sometimes called "Ground-hog's Day" among country people, as they say he peeps out of his hole on Candlemas Day, and if he finds the sky gray, walks abroad; but if he sees the sun shining, he draws back into his hole.

sees the sun shining, no date hole.

A German saying is: "The shepherd would rather see the wolf enter his stable on Candlemas Day than the sun." Therefore, there is one day in the year when a stormy day is to be A German saying is: "The shepherd would rather see the wolf enter his stable on Candlemas Day than the sun." Therefore, there is one day in the year when a stormy day is to be hoped for.

Oertain plants are connected with certain days, and the snow-drop, called "The Fair Maid of February," has always been associated with Candlemas.

The decorations of Christmas are supposed

usual manner of the average country boy, his to be removed by Candlemas Day, an old superstition being that any greens remaining after February 2nd would bring misfortune.

"Leave not a single branch behind, For Superstition's touch to find, As many branches as there be, So many Goblins shall you see."

SAINT VALENTINE.

Written for COMFORT.



entine's day. For distance, one tradition was that the first unmarried person of the other sex met on St. Valentine's morning was the destined wife or husband.

A forward miss in 1754 wrote to a friend as follows: "Friday was St. Valentine's Day, and the night before, I got five bay-leaves, and pinned four of them to the four corners of my pillow and the fifth to the middle; then if I dreamt of my sweetheart we should surely marry within the year. But to make it more sure, I boiled an egg hard, and took out the yoke, and filled it with salt; and when I went to bed ate it, shell and all. And would you think it—I never closed my eyes!"

The practice of choosing a Valentine is mentioned both by Chaucer and Shakespeare, and the custom of sending written valentines as a method by which the bashful lover may declare his passion dates back many centuries. One of the earliest known writers of Valentines was Charles, Duke of Orleans.

On the 14th of February it is customary in many English villages for the children to assemble and go about from house to house, the residents throwing them wreaths and true lover's knots from the windows. The children usually select the youngest boy to march ahead of them, and call him St. Valentine.

An old English poet wrote the following lines upon the day:

"Hail, Bishop Valentine! whose day this is, All the air is thy diocese.
And all the chirping birds thy choristers, And other birds are thy parishioners.

This day more bright than other days doth shine—
Because it is thine own, Saint Valentine."

This day more bright than other days shine—
Because it is thine own, Saint Valentine."

THE STORY OF THE STICK.

Written for COMFORT.



a rule, per-fectly plain. Modern etiquette de-clares the clares the cane out of place at visits of cere m o n y. though this prohibition seems a

trific unnecessary.
The manner in which a man carries a cauc in a way in dicates the manner of man he is. It has been said that at twenty a trifle unnec

said that at twenty a youth carries a switch, at thirty a cane, and at sixty a stick.

Canes are made from every kind of wood, from ebony, rattan, from sharks spines, and from varnished leather.

During the first centuries of the world the stick was a material symbol of authority. An ancient legend is that Adam gained his empire over the animals by use of the stick; and certain philosophers have asserted that the ape knows its use, and try to prove by this that man is only a developed ourang-outang.

UNIQUE.

UNIQUE.

One of the first Catalogues of the season to make its appearance is that of Wm. Henry Maule, Philadelphia, Pa. A large number of cash prizes are offered to buyers and planters of Maule's seeds. The magnitude of the business which this catalogue describes may be estimated from the fact that the names of nearly 200,000 persons who buy Maule's seeds are on the books of the firm, and they are live men and women of to-day. See advertisement, page 7.

Two Sister School Teachers

tell in an interview in the Daily Chronicle, of Marion, Ind., about a remarkable investment which they made in Griffith, Chicago's new fac-tory suburb. How they

Invested \$100 Each In Lots

about a year ago, when the town was being laid out. It then had four railroads, the oil-pipe lines—and prospects.

They Soon Sold for \$2,000.

This seemed almost like finding money to them. Having greatest faith in Griffith,

They Then Bought a Block

of the best residence property, and decided to hold it until Griffith grew up. This was less than a year ago.

It Is Worth \$12,000

at current prices to-day, but they would not sell for \$25,000. We send free a copy of this interview and the testimony of ten newspapers relative to Griffith's unequalled reilroad and fuel facilities. Write for this to-day, If you can save \$5 a month you can buy a lot.

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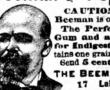


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publication of all matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular subscribers to Comfort, and every contribution must bear the writer's own name and post office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may exceed the latter limit. Contributors must write on one side of their paper only.

Every month a number of prize monograms composed of the writer's initials, will be awarded to those sending the best contributions. These monograms, which will be most desirable ornaments for stationery, cards, etc., will be printed in connection with the respective letters, and new electrotypes of same will be mailed, post paid, to the prize winners.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

FEBRUARY PRIZE WINNERS.

Lucy A. Beedy, Sam H. Cohn, Lena L. Woodill, Wm. Langley,
Henry Richardson,

Robert J. Bauman, John H. Hull, Nellie A. Decker, John M. Casey,

EAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES:

I am sure that the installment of letters which I present to you this month will show you better than any mere assertion could do, how scattered the Comport Cousins are. They stretch hands of friendship from Nova Scotia to California, from Vermont to South Carolina, and they all have something of interest to tell. These are the kind of letters I like, and surely with all our wide circle we should have plenty of them. Coming, as we do, from all parts of the country, and arepresenting every line of thought, there must be many differences of opinion. But all subjects which would bring out these differences should be carefully avoided. Controversies should not be indulged in, in the correspondence, for this is not a forum for debates, but a place where the Cousins meet to exchange courtesies, and to entertain and instruct one another. Neither is it an "intelligence office," where personal affairs may be discussed, or private appointments made.

I hope that the letters will grow better and better all the time, and that not only the nephews and nices, but all the readers of COMPORT will turn to them as an interesting feature of our most interesting paper. I am sure you will all aid me in the effort of bringing our department to the high standard which our editor has set up for us all. In view of the excellence of the letters, additional prizes are offered. Yours most affectionately, AUNT MINERVA.

In this practical age all women, especially houserives, are interested in any industry which will add



seed, I found the labor of feeding so light, that I resolved the next year I would rear silkworms for the sale of the occoons.

I now had several thousand eggs. A letter to the Secretary of Agriculture brought me five thousand more. My daughter, thinking she would raise a few, just to study them, also wrofe for, and received, five thousand, of which she turned nearly all over to me. I was literally deluged with eggs.

It is generally thought that the worms must be fed on mulberry leaves, but the leaves of the osage orange tree are found quite as good; and as this tree is quite extensively grown for hedge, in all the central and southern States, there is no lack of feed.

The eggs must be kept in a cool place, to prevent their hatching, until the leaves appear.

About the sixth of May, I brought out my eggs, placed them in a room of moderate and even temperature, and in twenty-four hours, my eggs were replaced by as many little brown worms, as small as the finest cambric needle and not over the thirty-second part of an inch in length.

I now spread over the worms pieces of tarleton, upon which I scattered the tender leaves of the osage. Not much longer than it takes to write it, did it take the almost invisible mites to make their way through the tarleton and on to the leaves. From that moment began the process of silk making. For convenience, I then made trays of laths, placing several hundred on a tray.

a tray.

The exerement, together with the uneaten portions of the leaves the uneaten portions of the leaves will accumulate in twenty-four hours so that the trays must be cleaned out. To do this I apread over the worms another piece of tarleton the size of the tray, placed on this fresh leaves, and my worms were soon on top, eating greedily. I then lifted off the tarleton and cleaned my trays ready for nee again.

worms were soon on the case of my trays ready for use again.

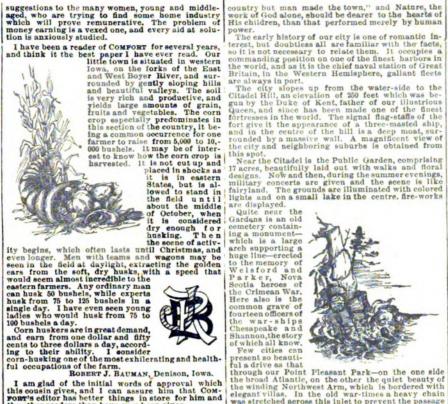
As the worms became too large to make their way through the meshes of the tarleton (as they will in a few days) I substituted for it mosquito netting. By the time they could no longer crawl through the meshes of the mosquito netting, they were large enough not to be smothered by laying quite large branches upon them; then branches and worms could be lifted off together. My worms made a large and rapid growth, and were from two and a half to three inches long and an inch in circumference. Just about apinning-time, the worms hatched from the eggs sent by the Department of Agriculture began to show signs of disease, and died off rapidly. Those hatched from the eggs of my own raising seemed free from disease and spun themselves up for their last long sleep.

from disease and spun themselves a plot gleen loss seased by the diseased worms, took all the profit from my summer's light and pleasant labor, but I am convinced that the silk culture can be made profitable to those who have household care, and yet have time for some light labor that does not call them from home.

LUCY A. BEEDY, St. Michael, Neb.

This letter is specially commended as helpful in its

suggestions to the many women, young and middle-aged, who are trying to find some home industry which will prove remunerative. The problem of money carning is a vexed one, and every aid at solu-tion is anxiously studied.



I am glad of the initial words of approval which this cousin gives, and I can assure him that Com-pour's editor has better things in store for him and the other readers than have ever been given.

ter things in store for him and an have ever been given.

URING this time we frequently hear the politicians say, "Another district heard from."

So possibly you will say, when this letter from far-off California reaches you. Though I am in California's great raisin centre, I will reserve for some futuretime any account that I may wish to give of the raisin industry.

My letter you this time is to describe a lion hunt now in progress, about eight miles from here. It is not a real lion, as the school children say, which is being hunted, but a species of panther called the California lion.

We are in a valley surrounded these side of one of these hills that

We are in a valwe have surrounded
by hills. It is on the side of one of these hills that
the hunt is in progress. Like Scott's Minstrel, the
lion is the "Last of all his race," and so is being
vigorously hunted.

During the last two weeks we have noticed fires on
the side of the mountain. Each night they seemed to
come nearer together, until to-night there are five
fires brightly burning in a little circle. To-day we
heard that the lion had been driven into a thicket by
the four young men who are hunting it.



Vermont's exhibit will be very large and interesting. The skeleton of an enormous whale found a few years ago near Lake Champlain, will be on exhibition; the finding of this skeleton more than 200 miles from the coast and 30 feet above sea-level, leads to many questions.

Animals and birds peculiar to this State will be exhibited, also over 1,800 varieties of plants and flowers. Mrs. Potter Palmer has invited the women of Vermont to make an extensive exhibit of homeraised honey and maple sugar and also antique articles. The cousins must not fail to visit this building while attending the fair.

Thanks; the Cousins will be charmed to accept the

the fair. John H. Hull, Brandon, Vt. Thanks; the Cousins will be charmed to accept the invitation. Those of us who are so fortunate as to visit Chicago during the year will learn much of each other's homes by the various State Exhibits. The World's Fair will be a great educator to those who visit it in the right way.

country but man made the town," and Nature, the work of God alone, should be dearer to the hearts of His children, than that performed merely by human

ful a drive as that through our Point Pleasant Park—on the one side the broad Atlantic, on the other the quiet beauty of the winding Northwest Arm, which is bordered with elegant villas. In the old war-times a heavy chain was stretched across this inlet to prevent the passage of hostile vessels. The ring to which it was attached still remains.

There are many interesting points that I could describe, but my letter is already too lengthy. If you wish I will write again and tell about Prince's Lodge, the residence of the Duke of Kent when stationed here, the various fortifications, the rocking stone, the Dingle, and also the "red-coats" and "blue jackets," which perhaps will be of interest to my consins in the neighboring republic.

LENA L. WOODILL, 23 Carleton St., Halifax, N. S.

The Haligonian consin is warmly welcomed to the circle. Her letter is very interesting and we will all be glad to hear from her again.

Will you allow me to enter your circle and hell you of a boat-ride I had last spring. I seem to hear a faint "Yes" so will proceed.

We Dakota girls do not often have the privilege of boat riding. This season, however, the lake-beds



of nothing else, grouned and consented.

We then got something which we called "oars," which are indescribable.

We were obliged to get a small brother to assist us to launch our "boat," and soon were sailing on the deep. I omitted to add that we had placed a washtuh on the "boat" as a preventive against wet feet.

For a time "all went merry as a marriage bell," but suddenly our craft came to a standstill. Vigorous efforts with the "oars" falled to move the obstinate "boat." Clearly it had caught on something in, figuratively speaking, "mid-ocean." What could we do? We called to my brother who was watching from the shore, but he emphatically denied any assistance, thinking the water was too cold.

But something had to be done, as the tub threatened every moment to overturn.

We finally decided we must wade to shore, and wade we did. Fortunately for us, we were not on an ocean or even on a sea, but only on a lake-bed.

We escaped with nothing worse first, boat-ride. Perhaps we were easily conquered, but the water was cold.

Down by the shore of the lake-bed lies the "boat," where the small brother brought it when the water was warmer. By its side the "oars" are peacefully resting. Long may both "boat" and "oars" rest, undisturbed, in peace.

NELLIE A. DECKER, Roscoe, S. D.

This bright letter suggests to me the idea that some of the Cousins might tell us of some of their special sports. Those in Canada, for instance, might give us a description of snowshoeing or tobogganing. You must remember that in a family so widely separated as ours, what is most familiar to some, will be actually novel to others. Let that fact guide you in writing your letters.



we are still here, and livelier and better than ever before.
Last week was our "Gala Week," held every year to commemorate our recovery from the terrible earthquake of 1836. One of the best features of it was the reproduction of the storming of Fort Sumter by the Federal Fleet in 1833. Two flats, built to represent Fort Sumter, were anchored off the battery. Fort Moultrie was garrisoned by the German Artillery and the Gattling Gun Squad. The tug-boats were the fleet. When the cannon belehed forth its thunder and smoke and the bombs burst in the air with a deafenning noise then I thought that L could realize how the armies feel when they march up in the face of such guns.
Saturday we went over to Sullivan's Island to visit

invitation. Those of us who are so fortunate as to visit Chicago during the year will learn much of each other's homes by the various State Exhibits. The World's Fair will be a great educator to those who visit it in the right way.

Have you room in your charming circle for another niece—this time a Haligonian lassic, who halls from a city on the shores of the great Atlantic. If so, I shall endeavor to tell the cousins something about my home.

Although Halifax is not famous for its magnificent edifices, it can boast of beautiful scenery. This fact has endeared it to all loves and pounds a mile and a user raid-firing rifles, firing twenty shots a minute and capable of effectually repelling any attempt at boarding by means of small boats. We also had



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Hon. J. G. Blaine, An elegant Photographic Souve his two Maine residences, viz. at Augusta and Bar Harbor, the Congregational Church and Chapel where he attended Religious Services when in Maine; View taken from Cupoia of Maine Capitol, showing the close proximity of the Augusta home to this edifice. Sent to any address on receipt of 50 cts. RUBENS ART STUDIO, Augusta, Maine.

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bicycle races and fancy and trick riding on the bicycle during the week.

WM. LANGLEY, Charleston, S. C.



bicycle races and fancy and trick riding on the bicycle during the week.

WM. LANGLEY, Charleston, S. C.

This bit of description from one of the most famous of our Southern cities is very well given. It would be pleasant to hear again from this cousin, and also from others who live in lands of sunshine.

I am a new subscriber to Comport from the "Old Dominion" and hope to be classed among your number of cousins. Lynchburg, like the city of Rome, is seated upon seven hills and is appropriately termed the "Hill City."

The principal industry of this section of Virginia is the cultivation and manufacture of tobacco. Virginia is the oldest of tobacco-producing States; since the year of 1609, when even the streets of Jamestownwere planted with the weed, tobacco has been a staple product of the "Mother of States."

The tobacco is disposed of by farmers at "breaks" (auctions) and sold to the manufacturer. It is then dipped in liquorice, then dried, and again wet with liquorice water. Then it is stemmed, dried and made into various shapes and sizes.

After this it is put into the steaming room and allowed to remain there until thoroughly saturated with the steam, then it is put into boxes and taken to the prining room, where it is pressed firmly into the box. This final arrangement fits it for the consumer. Manufactured tobacco comprises, for chewing and smoking purposes, granulated, fine-cut and long-cut; the Virginia tobacco being the most popular for this purpose. The tobacco of Virginia is yellow and very highly flavored.

Tobacco has two seasons—the Autumn and Winter. The quality of tobacco depends on the curing; the tobacco worm causes much trouble to the farmer, it being almost the color of tobacco. Persons engaged in manufacturing tobacco earn from five to six dollars a week.

John M. Casey, 1330 Main St., Lynchburg, Va.

JOHN M. CASEY, 1330 Main St., Lynchburg, Va. JOHN M. CASEY, ISSM MAIN St., Lynchourg, va.
This description of a local industry, particularly
one so important, is full of interest. From the corn
harvesting of lowa to tobacco curing of Virginia is a
long jump, but see how easily COMPORT readers take
it. There is a place in the circle for the Old Dominion

ousin.

I will write upon a subject not mentioned in the Chats ever before—something which interests you all, directly or indirectly. And yet I'm only a machinist working in New York City. How can I interest you? Well, you all read—everybody reads. You're reading this, now. How do you suppose this got to you!

You're reading this, now. How do you suppose this got to you!

I am working for a concern that makes printing presses, the largest concern and the largest presses in the world.

They build machines—such as the great daily papers in large cities use—that print as many as 800 newspapers a minute, right along, with the white paper running in at one end, in a broad band 70 inches wide, from a spool which holds five miles or so of paper at a time, while from the other end of the press the papers come printed, folded, counted, all complete and piled up ready to be taken away. Even in this big factory it takes a year to build a machine like that.

But I'm at work, with a big gang of men, under

complete and piled up ready to be taken away. Even in this big factory it takes a year to build a machine like that.

But I'm at work, with a big gang of men, under lock and key, at something different, something new, something that you will know about sooner than anyone else of the outside worl.

What we are at work upon was only an idea once—an idea in the head of one man. Then he gave his idea to our designers and draftsmen, who built a machine—on paper, that is. They made an accurate drawing of each separate piece of the many thousands which compose it, showing just what it locks like, its dimensions, if there were any holes in it where they were and how big—everything carefully put down on the drawing. Then they gave the drawings to the pattern-makers who made wooden patterns for casting. It's a funny thing, but iron sbrinks a very little when it's cooling, so they have to make the patterns a trific larger than they want the casting. The foundrymen made these castings and the machinists took them (some of the pieces weigh over a ton) and shaped them and put them together.

But I haven't told you yet what we have been at work upon for so many months—it's the new Compost upon the sum of its work, how many will remember that your machinists cousin helped to build it. By the ald of this marvelous machine Compost will come to you in a new dress so unique and so beautiful that you will scarcely recognize it, but you will all love it more dearly than ever.

There are about 400 apprentice boys here and they have to go to school evenings in the company's school room, which is as fine as any public school, to keep up their education, besides having many points connected with their trade explained to them.

Besides the apprentices there are about 1,200 men about the place.

Henry Richardson, N. Y.

about the place. Henry Richardson, N. Y.
This letter is a good type of what I like the nephews and nieces to tell us. I think you will all watch as engerly as I shall, for the fulfilment of the promise of our clever New York cousin.

It is quite impossible to publish all the letters received, but I wish to thank you all for your interest, and I assure you that even if letters cannot be printed, I am glad to receive them, and am often made happy by the appreciative words which they contain.

contain.

And even if you are not prize winners, as by no means even a small proportion can be, you must bear in mind two things; one, that whatever is worth having is worth trying for, that if a first or even a second attempt is not successful, another trial may make you a winner; the other, that the letter writing is good practise for you and will improve you. So you see, that after all you w.il be the gainer.

With best wishes, affectionately,

AUNT MINERVA.

ODD AND C _ IR ITEMS.

An inn in Europe has a room completely papered with cancelled postage stamps of every nationality. It took five years to complete the task of collecting a sufficient quantity.

sufficient quantity.

Professor Gleason, the wonderful animal tamer and trainer, recently bought a "man-eating" zebra, having a record of three keepers killed and four crippled. The professor will have this dangerous animal led out into the arena of the Madison Square Garden in New York, and will attempt to master him before an audience. Many of the professor's friends fear his injury in the encounter, but the professor feels confident of his success. The zebra only weights 700 lbs. but is said to be as strong as three ordinary horses.

Another professor, A. J. Seymour of Illinois, a mind-reader of some celebrity, is making preparations for performing a most extraordinary feat. Next June he will go to a selected spot of ground, throw himself into a state of trance, and be buried several feet deep in the earth. This spot is to be watched by a committee night and day, and a crop of grain will be sowed and harvested above him. He is then to be exhumed and will return to life. The professor has no doubt of his ability to perform it is feat, as he has frequently suspended animation for considerable periods. It is stated by very reliable authorities that the fakirs of India have been the to accomplish similar marvels.

that the rakirs of India nave been .bie to accomplish similar marvels.

A St. Louis grocer has the ideal burglar-trap. A few nights ago the police in that city were attracted to his store by the most agonized howis, and breakiry in, found an intruder with one leg caught in an apparatus from which they were unable to release hirauntil the inventor was summoned from his home am lie away. The contrivance consisted of a trapdoor in the floor, which a slight weight would dislodge. Its fall released a heavy wooden bar, full of iron teeth, which was arranged to slide horizontally across the under side of the hole, and which met another bar, tationary, but with equally good chewing apparatus. The traveling jaw received its mementum from a 56 lb, weight which was attached to its by ropes and pulleys. This jaw was arrange to look firmly wherever it stopped. The captured burglar has already served two terms in prison.

CHARACTER READING BY LEAD PENCILS.

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THE first pencils were supposed to have been made of earth or chalk, but the Greeks, in writing and drawing, applied wet colors with a fine pointed brush, which was also called a pencil.

Lead pencils are made of graphite or black-lead as it is sometimes called, although it is not lead but a mineral much resembling anthractic coal. The first lead pencils were made from a graphite mine in England. So valuable was the deposit found in this mine that underground passages were dug from neighborboring mines for the purpose of stealing it.

Graphite is generally so full of impurities that it is pulverized and then solidified into blocks by pressure. In making pencils the blocks are sawed into little square bars and placed in corresponding grooves in pieces of wood, which are then glued together.

Do you know that you infallibly indicate your character by the point you put upon your pencil, and have you noticed how other people's pencils are sharpened? If not, you may gain a good deal of insight into their disposition and habits, by aid of the following illustrations.

As a general rute, the

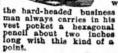


sight into their disposition and habits, by aid of the following illustrations.

As a general rute, the more artistic a person's temperament the longer than the longer will be his pencil point, and taken off, the more methodical and well-balanced the owner.

Here is the school-boy's, with the wood mostly bitten off, probably because the teacher has just taken his knife away for whittling his name upon the benches. But we can all guess just what sort of a point he would put on if he had it.

The happy go lucky, easy go in g individual sharpens a pencil somewhat like this. While the hard-headed business







point.

But the very worst pencil-abarpener of the lot, and one whose mental characteristics you can imagine like this.

So you can see that a man's personality runs through everything he worst and everything he works with, and that character is made up of perfection in little things.

Dr. Shoop, Racine, Wis., Offers

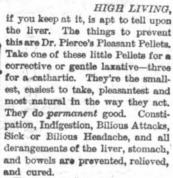
Liberal pay to Agents selling to dealers, Dr. Shoop's Restorative, the great Nerve Tonic, which, through a newly discovered principle, cures stomach, liver and kidney diseases, by its action upon the nerves that govern these organs. Book and samples free for 2-ct. stamp. Address Box A.

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No, do not miss the chance offered by B. F. Johnson&Co., of Richmond, Va. Look up their advertisement in another column, and write to them at once for full particulars.

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LADIES or YOUNG MEN WANTED to take light pleasant work at their own homes; \$\forall to \forall \text{per} per day can be quietly made; work sent by mail; no canvassing. For particulars address at once, Globe Mfg. Co., box 5331, Boston, Mass. Established 1880.



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CORPUS LEAN Will reduce fat at rate of 10 to 15 lbs. per month without injury to health. See MADE 66. In stamps for sealed circulars covering testimonials. L. E. Marsh Co., 2815 Madison Sq., Philada, Pa.

Simply stopping the fat-producing effort food. The supply being stopped, the natworking of the system draws on the fat reduces weight at once.



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Dr. Judd Electric Belt and Battery combined sent you on trial free. Will cure you Also Catarrh Battery. Costs nothing to try them. Give size. Dr. Judd, Detroit, Mich. Want Agts.

ing, prevents side pulling, and don't worry the horse. With this bit any lady can manage any horse. Bit sent postpaid on receipt of price. No. 10, in Fine Nickel Plate, \$2.00.

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Imperial Bit&Snap Co., 663 Wise.St. Raeine, Wis

MONEY AND TICKETS FREE. Send the names five friends with 16c. in stamps and you will receive for three months the brightest and largest illustrated Home Journal in America; and how you can secure World's Fair tickets and make \$5.00 every day without one cent of money, Address Clinton S. Zimmerman & Co., Gaff Bidg., Chicago, Illinois,



We want to introduce our new Catalogue of Goods, and Secure new customers. In order to increase our trade at once, we offer to send All the following FREE, provided you enclose six cents in stamps for our big catalogue. Head this list!

Ext Great Sleight of Hand Tricks, 30 Money-Making Secrets, collections, Head this list!

Ext Great Sleight of Hand Tricks, 30 Money-Making Secrets, for the Secrets for Check Each, Coatly Secrets (one of which est us \$100). Telegraph Code, Cleveland Fuzzle. Secrets for Lovers, how to win and woo, including directions, Magic Number Mystery, Seven Wonders of the World, 19 New Formers, Map of U. S., Minsterl Jokes, 16 Portraits of rocted benuties and pretty girls (French and English), a thrilling story, "The Firsk willie Ghost," Wonderful Experiments, Schedule of Noted Historical Events, Big Lot of Astograph Album Verses, Breams, how to tell what they mean; 12 Popular Songs, Decamble, Charles and Catalogue Miles Pin," all about a Kias, and collection of Jokes for Jolly Feeple.

ALL the above, with our new catalogue, will be sent, poetpaid, if you send us 6 cents in stamps. Two lots and 2 catalogues for 10 cents.

Cut this Out and return it to us with No silver or stamps, and we will our Agents' Directory, You will got thousands of Papers, Cards,

CATARRH CURED.

Look here, friend, do you suffer with Catarrh—are yo constantly hawking and splitting—have you a running frou the nose? If so, send a self-addressed stamped envelop to the Coryza Remedy Co., 2006—9th Ave. New York, and you will receive a recipe free of charge the will cure you of this dreadful disease.



MAGIC LANTERN, GIVEN AWAY! Any one wishing a New Style Magic Lantern, with Views, Silp, Slides, etc., FREE, can secure the com-plete \$25.00 outfit, as here illustrated, without costing one cent, by addressing Comfort, Augusta, Maine. We have hit on a new way to advertise and will pay you to help us.

Fun For The Boys.

tacnes have wire attached to the factor of t

centa every boy can have his own circus. Mustaches and goatee, gray, red, light, medium, or dark brown and black, price 7 cents each, four for 25 cents, or 60 cents per dozen. Goatees, 5 cents each, four for 15 cents, or 60 cents per dozen. Beards or Whiskers — white, gray, red, light, medium, or dark brown, and black. Price, Full Beard 60 cents; Whiskers with Mustache, 60 cents; four of either for \$2.00. Any of above goods mailed, postpaid, or receips of price. In ordering, send small lock of hair or state color desired. Address Morse & Co., Box \$30. Augusta, Maine

Silk Dress Presents! A \$25 Silk Dress FREE

Our Sixteen-Page Weekly Story Paper THE WEEKLY BUDGET, has inver contained any advertisements. Every line has been devoted to choice stories and family reading.

FOR 1893 Whave an offer to insert a full for a Silk insporting dutes and take ou pay in silk dress goods. As these good will not cost us anything except the page of opace in our paper, we shall use them all to beom a mubscription list for the year 1893. The colors we she will not contain the first paper of the page of the

Hunting the Polar Bear.

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FAR to the north and where the earth is always covered with snow and ice is the haunt of the Polar bear. During most of the long winster he sleeps coiled in a ball hidden away in some burrow he has made in the snow or ice. But when in the short summer of those latitudes the ice which has covered all the sea in great smooth sheets or piled high in hummocks, breaks up then the Polar bear is about in search of prey and sustenance for its young.

The Polar bear grows to a size never attained by the ordinary brown-bear, although sometimes surpassed by the Grizzly of the Rocky Mountains. He is often seven feet long. He is a vindictive creature and not at all likely to run away from one attacking him. Therefore, any one hunting him either for meat or for his skin or for sport is pretty certain to find plenty of adventure and to find his heart-beats growing quicker and more violent.

Let us picture to ourselves the scene spread before a traveler who recently sailed among the ice-fields and who had the fortune to find and shoot several white-bears. All about in the distance are low hills covered with snow, while occasionally between high cliffs a glacier or frozen river flows on slowly, huge masses breaking off forming the icebergs which as they float away to the south assume all sorts of grotesque shapes. Sometimes they look like great cathedrals with turrets and spires glistening in the sunlight; sometimes they look like great cathedrals with turrets and spires glistening in the sunlight; sometimes they look like great cathedrals with turrets and spires glistening in the sunlight; sometimes they look like great cathedrals with two cubs. The mother is fishing for her offspring for often she dives and brings great mouthsful of fish. Now from the adjacent shores three or four of theadventurers and hardy natives set out in their frail skincovered boats making their way as best they can among the floating ice. They are armed only with spears. In the meanwhile the white sports

Ruttenfora B Layes

He was an earnest advocate of civil service reform and the removal of partisanship from the departments of the government, laying during his term the foundation for the present system of examinations. His veto of the Chinese Exclusion Bill, as being a gross violation of international justice and courtesy, is an example of his liberal and broad-minded foreign policy. He was devoted to benevolent and useful enterprises, and especially interested in methods of prison reform.

His home life was particularly happy and tranquil, being surrounded by his family and his universally beloved wife, now deceased, a woman of the finest qualities and principles. While in the Executive Mansion, she had the moral courage to uphold her convictions in the face of tradition and custom, and never permitted the use of wine at the While House table. Despite the adverse comment her act was subjected to. The example was a wholesome one, given by a gentle Christian woman, whose motives, at least, no one questions.

We close this sketch of the life of a gentleman, scholar, soldier and ruler, with a reproduction of his signature, written especially for the readers of COMPORT by him, but a few short weeks ago, and which was intended to accompany an article upon his life, instead of the notice of his death.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

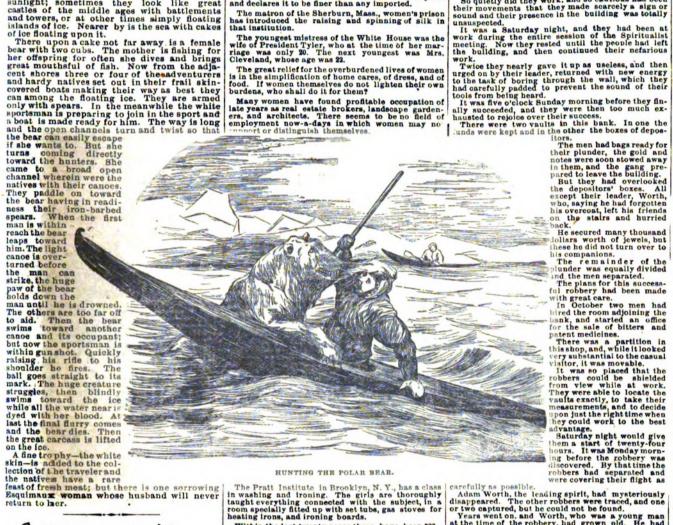
A lady in Florida raises her own tea from the plant and declares it to be finer than any imported.

The matron of the Sherburn, Mass., women's prison has introduced the raising and spinning of silk in that institution.

The youngest mistress of the White House was the wife of President Tyler, who at the time of her marriage was only 20. The next youngest was Mrs. Cleveland, whose age was 22.

The great relief for the overburdened lives of women is in the simplification of home cares, of dress, and of food. If women themselves do not lighten their own burdens, who shall do it for them?

Many women have found profitable occupation of late years as real estate brokers, landscape gardeners, and architects. There seems to be no field of employment now-a-days in which women may no employment of distinguish themselves.



HUNTING THE POLAR BEAR

The Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, N. Y., has a class in washing and ironing. The girls are thoroughly taught everything connected with the subject, in a room specially fitted up with set tubs, gas stoves for heating irons, and ironing boards.

meating irons, and ironing boards.

Within the last twenty years there have been 328,000 divorces granted. This seems appalling until we
learn that there were almost as many golden weddings celebrated, while the number of silver weddings exceeds the divorces considerably. Marriage
shows the smallest amount of total failures of any
business or profession entered into by the human
race, the proportion being one per cent.

The death of Miss Mary Alla, Wart in January

race, the proportion being one per cent.

The death of Miss Mary Allen West in Japan where she had gone for a much needed vacation, was a shock to the women of America. Miss West was at the time of her death editor-in-chief of the Union Signal, the "White Ribbon" paper of which Miss Frances Willard and Lady Henry Somerset are assistant editors. She was the President, from the beginning, of the Illinois Woman's Press Association. In former years Miss West was a teacher, and she was one of the first county school superintendents.

FRANK FINCH DEALS HONESTLY.

One of the only two ex-presidents, died at Fremont, Ohio, January 17, of heart failure, at the age of seventy. He was born in Delaware, Ohio, and went to the common schools, and then to college, where he distinguished himself in mathematics and debate. He was noted as a hard student and also as being a young man of remarkably pure, high moral character, singularly free from the various vices young men are commonly addicted to. His character in this respect will bear the careful study of all young men—even of those whose only desire is to succeed in a worldly way—as showing that these high qualities bring a gratifying reward in after life.

He took up the study of law, and in 1845 was admitted to the bar, locating shortly thereafter in Cincinnati. His law practice, though lucrative, was never very extensive.

While in Cincinnati he was a member, in common with many other men whose names afterward became household words in America, of the Literary Club, and when the war broke out a company of soldiers was formed, of which Hayes became Captain. More than forty members of this club company afterward became officers, some of high rank. General Hayes' advancement in military honors was rapid. He was a leader of desperate sorties and adventurous undertakings, combining rare personal courage with great good judgment, and was many times brought to the notice of the nation by the frequent recommendations of his superior officers of "Promotion for bravery in action."

While in the field he was elected to Congress, despite his refusal to leave his dangerous com-FRANK FINCH DEALS HONESTLY.

As a result he HAS succeeded in building up one of
the most extensive mail enterprises of the kind in
this country, and now has over 250,000 customers—
and satisfied ones too—because every one of them
have found by their own experience, that any offer or
proposition, signed by Frank Finch, means just what
it says, and can be relied upon in each and every instance. He well deserves the enviable reputation he
has been so successful in building up among his customers, and business men, throughout the civilized
world.

VALENTINES

Are acceptable all through the month of February, so it will be to your advantage to read and answer the Free Valentine notice on page seven.

PERSONAL We can send you free an article that will be of great value to you, if you will address The Giant Oxic Co., Augusta, Maine, and if you agree to show the articles to neighbors, will also give you a half-dollar cert. The long and severe cold snap will prove a great drain on your system as well as pocket, so write for it to-day and you will be safe and handy. system as well as pocket will be safe and happy.

LADIES LACE PINS FREE.

nation by the frequent recommendations of his superior officers of "Promotion for bravery in action."

While in the field he was elected to Congress, despite his refusal to leave his dangerous command, for the stump, in his own interests. He was a conspicuous figure in Congress and retired to take the governorship of Ohio, which honorable office he has held at three different times during his life.

In 1876 he was pitted against the late Samuel J. Tilden, in one of the most acrimonious contests for the presidency in the history of the United States, and was declared elected amidst wildest excitement, and the threats of some of the most bitter of his political antagonists. The strong law-abiding sentiment of the people, however, prevented any outbreaking and President Hayes spared no effort during his reign to soften the animosities of the campaign. The administration of President Hayes, while marked by no special brilliancy was, nevertheless, clean and able. Mr. Hayes had the wisdom to draw about him as advisors one of the strong-set cabinets that any president has ever had. During his administration and by his influence the Federal troops were withdrawn from the South. Although this action at first created some feeling in the President's party, it nevertheless proved to be one of the wisest steps taken by the government since the war, and those who were disposed to criticise him soon came to see the justice of the action. LADIES LACE PINS FREE.

We have some new style Gold-plate Bangle Pins coming in very unique patterns, comprising the Souvenir Spoon, Key and various new styles. We want every one to get our 'new Catalogue and Promium List of 500 new articles in Jewelery and Household goods, so if you address Morse & Co., Box ISS, Augusta, Maine, and enclose & for mailing we will send one of these real gold-plated plus free postpaid, and also include a specimen copy of Comport, the only Magazine that has ever attained a circulation of ever Eleven Hundred Thousand copies each issue.

ABOUT LETTER-WRITING.

ABOUT LETTER-WRITING.

If you want to be sure and get into a ten thousend dollar a year business where dollars roll right into your pockets without hardly any effort on your part, don't delay a minute, but write to Giant Oxic Co., Augusta, Maine for particulars and free samples to start you in an honorable Summer, Fall and Winter business Remember "Time and Tide wait for no man," and a postal in time saves you much disappointment, so don't allow anyone to get in ahead of you. Writetoday.

After Twenty-Four Years.

BY A. TURNER.

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1893, by the Publishers of COMPORT.

THE the night of November 20th, 1869, a body of Spiritualists were holding their regular monthly meeting in their rooms, on the third floor of a building situated on the north-west corner of Boylston and Washington streets, in the city of Boston, Massachusetts.

The meeting had been one of unusual interest. Raps of strange import had been distinctly heard, and the party separated about midnight. Among those present were two prominent detectives, one of whom is still living in Boston.

When these two men left the room and walked down the first flight of stairs together, stopping on the first landing, in front of the entrance of the Boylston Bank, to light their cigars.

"Small danger of thieves get-

cigars.
Small danger of thieves getting into this bank, with people coming and going all

ting into this bank, with people coming and going all night," remarked one.
"Mighty safe bank," responded his companion; and they left the building tegether.
At that very moment five robbers concealed in a room next to the bank, were breaking their way through the partition wall to the safety vaults.
So quietly did they work, and so cautious had been their movements that they made scarcely a sign or sound and their presence in the building was totally unauspected.

his overcoat, left his friends on the stairs and hurried back.

He secured many thousand dollars worth of jewels, but these he did not turn over to his companions.

The remainder of the plunder was equally divided and the men separated.

The plans for this successful robbery had been made with great care.

In October two men had ired the room adjoining the bank, and started an office for the sale of bitters and patent medicines.

There was a partition in this shop, and, while it looked very substantial to the casual visitor, it was movable.

It was so placed that the robbers could be shielded from view while at work. They were able to locate the vaults exactly, to take their measurements, and to decide upon just the right time when hey could work to the best advantage.

advantage.

Saturday night would give them a start of twenty-four hours. It was Monday morning before the gobbery was discovered. By that time the robbers had separated and were covering their flight as

were covering their flight as
Adam Worth, the leading spirit, had mysteriously
disappeared. The other robbers were traced, and one
or two captured, but he could not be found.
Years wenton, and Worth, who was a young man
at the time of the robbery, had grown old. He had
lived in London, in Paris—wherever life had offered
him amusement. Unsuspected by his associates, his
apparent wealth had given him a certain influence
and importance among his acquaintances, who little
imagined that the quiet gentleman, who said but little and who lived so simply, was in reality a thief,
with a large reward offered for his apprehension.
After twenty-four years of safety he had little fear
of discovery.
But the law has an all-enduring memory.

After twenty-four years of safety he had little fear of discovery.

But the law has an all-enduring memory.

Adam Worth had not been forgotten, and in November, 1892, a cable message to the United States from Berlin, stated that the Boylston Bank robber, Worth, was in custody!

He had avoided detection all these years to fall into a simple snare set for him by a suspicious police officer—another proof of the saying that "Murder will out."

Neuralgia and Head-HAMLIN'S Great field, splendid ache cure. 50c. per SNOW-BALL wait but send stamp bottle prepaid. HAM-LIN'S nowball Oint- REMEDIES, today for particulars ment for man or beast. 50c. per box prepaid. HAMLIN CHEMICAL CO., Deadwood, S. D.



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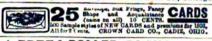
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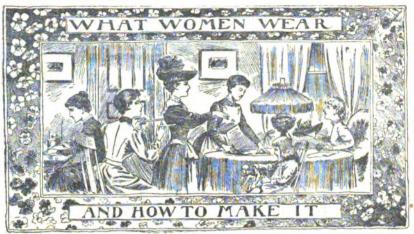
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BY SALLIE JOY WHITE.



DO you know I think there is something per-fectly delightful in the way many women, now-adays, keep up their youthful feeling and appearance, their fresh-ness of thought, and their interest in the vital affairs of the world.

But what has all this to do with fashion, do you ask?
Well, just this much.
Somebody complained one day because she said the fashions were all written for young women, there was nothing ever said for the grandmothers.
So I began thinking about the matter, then I contrasted the fashions of to-day that are approved and adopted by elderly women, with those which they formerly considered appropriate, and then all that I have just said came to me. It is not only the fashions for women that have altered, but the fashions of women, as well.
There is no longer a rigid line of demarcation between the young, the middle-aged and the elderly women. They slip along from one estate to another so gently and so gradually that no one ever thinks about it, not even the woman herself. Women—at least those who re-

so gently and so graduabout it, not even the least those who regard what is called fine courtesy—never think of discussing their own age, or that of their friends, any more than men do. And I think you will all agree with me that the question, "How old is he?" is almost never heard when a man is the subject of conversation, while it is very apt to be almost the first question that is asked about a woman by the unthinking or oldy curious of her own sex.

Not that she is ashamed of her advancing years. That is not at all the reason why she does not all ways give a straight reply. It is because she wishes to convey, as gently as possible, the fact

straight reply. It is because she wishes to convey, as gently as possible, the fact that it is none of the questioner's business and that courtesy should forbid her asking this, or any question of a purely personal nature. It is often done unthinkingly, but it should be remembered that the highest courtesy, the test of the best breeding, is thoughtfulness in all matters, no matter how trivial they may seem.

But to come to gowns and bonnets, and caps and chemisettes, and all the dainty accessories of an elderly woman's wardrobe.

I think that one of the best fashions for gowns is the princesse, with its straight lines and its perfect simplicity of style. It is becoming to nearly every figure, and it is suitable to every material from the simple prints to the elegant, stately silk. It will admit of elaborate trimming, or it will still be finished with its row of buttons down the front, and the ruffle at the neck and wrists.

Of course a great deal of its style and effect depends upon its perfect fit, and that depends upon what is worn underneath.

A great many women, as they grow older, think more about the protecting qualities of their underclothing than they do of its fit.

Now there is no reason in the world why both objects should not be attained. In the first place, let

clothing than they do of its fit.

Now there is no reason in the world why both ebjects should not be attained. In the first place, let the union undergarments take the place of the separate underdrawers and vest. Much more comfort will be attained, while the superfluous folds about the waist will be done away with. These union undergarments may be obtained in any weight of wool, in the Jaeger wool, in silk and wool combined, in all silk, and in Balbriggau. The cost is about the same

as that of the separate garments would be. Once having worn these union suits you will never go back to the separate ones. Nowadays these garments may be found in almost every town, and if by any chance you cannot obtain them near home, you can send your order to any reliable house in the large cities, giving the bust measure and length of sleeve and leg, and the quality and weight you desire, and it will be sent you with the bill to be collected on delivery.



with.

Many women, past the middle age, cling to the old fashion of round skirts, gat he red and sewed to the waists, and full bishop sleeves. I know one woman, the wife of one of the richest men in Boston, a woman whose name is in the mouth of hundreds of poor persons in grateful

wife of one of the richest men in Boston, a woman whose name is in the mouth of hundreds of poor persons in grateful thankfulness for her never-failing benevolence, who has never altered the fashions of her gowns since she was a girl, and always has them made in the eld-fashioned way just described. She wears black silk always, with the finest of lace ruffles at the throat and wrists, and she is one of the sweetest pictures of gracious, beneficent womanhood that I ever saw.

There is so much more that I want to say, but I promised to talk a little to the mothers, so the grandmams must not hold me by their faccinating web, or I shall do what I try always to avoid doing, and that is, breaking a promise.

I daresay I shall only begin, as it is, and have something over for next time, but that is better than nothing, after all.

January and February are the best months for looking out for bargain sales. At this time the last season's stock of cotton stuffs are brought out and sold at very low prices. It is just the time for the family mother to look out for the school dresses which her little girls will need for summer wear.

As the fashions of ginghams, cambries and chamberys change very little from season to season, it would be very foolish to wait for the new goods in either to bring pretty things. You will get nothing prettier, even if it is a tride newer, and you will pay much more for it. I have bought, at these January and February sales, gingham for 12-12 cents a yard, which I would have paid 25 cents a yard for in the summer, and for I7 cents a yard I have purchased a beautiful quality of the genuine Anderson Scotch gingham, which I had seen sold in the season for 37 i-2 cents a yard.

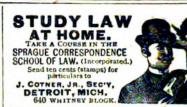
If you do not care to make these dresses up, you can lay them aside until later, but I think it a good economy of time to make the cotton dresses carly, as far as possible, because the style of making varies very little from season to season, and if you get them done and hung up all ready for wear, you have the time left open

made of China silk, muslin or nainsook, and are trinmed with lace or fine French embroidery. Two models are given here, one the Empire apron, fol-lowing the fashion in favor with the older girls, of short waists and low necks, the other a sort of tunic apron, with full skirts, and a waist piece at the back and front, meeting on the shoulders.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands ofcases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, iwill send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W.A.Noyes, \$20Powers' Block, Rochester, N.Y.





SIOO FOR 4 EARLY TOMATOES

THIS WONDERFULTIEST TOMATO in the WOST is just what everyone wants. It has proved the carliest and best by the sid variety. It bears abundantly of large bright red tomatoes, very as excellent quality, extremely solid all through, with only a few seeds from rot. By plants set in garden last of May produced full size ripe July 2nd, and was pronounced a perfect wonder by all who saw them After you onse test them you will grow no others for they grow so raph was sown in hot bed in April. I want a HIG record for this tomato in will pay \$500 in each to a person growing a ripe tomato in the law of the seed is sown. Also \$400 to the person growing a ripe tomato in the law of the seed is sown. Also \$400 to the person growing a ripe tomato in the law of the seed is sown. Also \$400 to the person growing a ripe tomato in the law of the seed is sown. Also \$400 to the person growing a ripe tomato in the law of the seed is sown. Also \$400 to the person growing a ripe tomato in the law of the seed is sown. Also \$400 to the person growing a ripe tomato in the law of the seed is sown. Also \$400 to the heat and sure to head, very us quality, and a good keeper. I will pay \$100 for the heat sets head grow geed in 1893 and \$50 for the next heaviest. Single heads have weighed to the person growing a ripe tomato handson and the seed and have weighed to the seed in 1893 and \$50 for the next heaviest. Single heads have weighed to the seed in 1893 and \$50 for the next heaviest. Single heads have weighed to the seed in 1893 and \$50 for the next heaviest. Single heads have weighed to the seed in 1893 and \$50 for the next heaviest. Single heads have weighed to the seed in the seed in 1893 and \$50 for the next heaviest. Single heads have weighed to the seed in the seed in 1893 and \$50 for the next head growing the seed in 1893 and \$50 for the next head growing the seed in 1893 and \$50 for the next head growing the seed in 1893 and \$50 for the next head growing the seed in 1893 and \$50 for the next head growing the seed in 1893 and \$50 for th

GIANT SILVER QUEEN ONION is the largest and handsomer of the state of the special handsomer of t

pansies) of any pansy ever offered. I offer \$5.00 in each to a person growing a Blossom of the "Alice Pansy" in 1833, from my seed, 4/5 inches in diameter, and \$500 for the largestblossom grown, \$100 for second, \$50 for third, \$50 for fourth, \$50 for fifth and \$50 for sixth. Try this and get bome beauties. Full particulars of all prizes in my catalogue.

MY CATALOGUE is full of bargains. \$4,500 offered in premiums; \$500 is MY CATALOGUE offered persons cending me the largest number of extomers by Julylst, \$500 for the largest club orders, \$100 for the largest farmer sorder; and everyone will be paid July ist. Mrs. T. B. Young, Rock City, Ill., sent largest club order in 1820 and I paid her \$500. Her photograph is in catalogue. Don't buy a seed until you see it. Prices low. \$1 customers get \$60 cents extra of their selection FIX. HELB. MY OFFER I will send a package each of "Earliest Tomatoin the World." Sure WY OFFER I will send a package can of "carliest Tomatoin the World." Sure Catalogue for only \$2.5 cets. Every person sending silver, P. N. or M. O. for the above collection will receive free a package Mammeth Prize Tomato, which grows over 18th ligh, and this year I will pay \$500 to any person growing one weighing 41bs. ItCAN be gh, and this year I will pay \$500 to any person growing one weighing 4 ibs. It CAN became if 2 persons and for two collections together each will receive Free a package of Wonder of the World" Beans. They originated among a tribe of Indians, stalks ow large as broom handle and pods 18 in. long. Beans white. It is a wonder, and ch a curiosity was never heard of before, Address, F. B. Mills. Rose Hill, N.Y. [Mr. Mills is perfectly reliable and trustworthy. Ed.]



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MENTION COMPORT. RELIABLE WOMAN

The fashion for these dresses is still the round wast, low-necked and sleeveless, or with a short full sleeve, to wear with a white guimpe, or a guimpe of plain colored gingham. There is nothing so pretty for a girl until she is twelve years old as these guimpe dresses, and they are so easily made that no mother need fear undertaking them.

Jaunty little aprons, for dressy occasions, are

S50 a WEEK, We want you to self-filling, Wahted in every County to establish a Corset Parcet for the sale of 'Dr. Nichols' Celebrated Spiral Spring for essers, and they are so easily made that no mother need fear undertaking them.

Jaunty little aprons, for dressy occasions, are

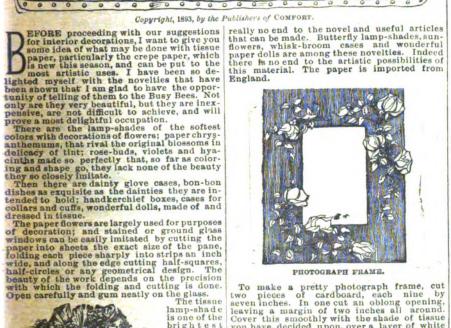


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The tissue lamp-shade is one of the brightest and prettiest of inventions. Every member of the home circle is sure to apprecicircle is sure
to appreciate the clear
yet softened
light, as well
as the beauty
given to the
room by this
artistic arrangement.
The combining of
colors for
this pur-

room by this artistic art. The combined of the colors for the combining of the colors for the colors for pose is some times as s



PHOTOGRAPH FRAME.

To make a pretty photograph frame, cut two pieces of cardboard, each nine by seven inches. In one cut an oblong opening, leaving a margin of two inches all around. Cover this smoothly with the shade of tissue you have decided upon, over a layer of white wadding, and paint it with scattered buds or violets or any conventional design you may prefer. Paper flowers are also used as adecoration for these frames. Attach an easel-rest to the other piece of cardboard and gum the two parts firmly on three edges, leaving the top ungummed for the insertion of the photograph.

These tissues can be purchased at two or three cents a sheet of any stationer and come in all colors. Entire costumes are made from it, and plaid tissues are expressly imported for gowns for fancy-dress parties. A new entertainment is the tissue spaper party, where different plays are represented and the characters taken by children in paper costumes.

Houses are frequently decorated for receptions with the crepe paper in the desired color. It comes in every imaginable shade, and drapes as softly as silk.

I have only given you an idea of a few of its uses. It is as lovely and as useful as silk for many purposes, and for a few cents you can make really beautiful articles, which will rival the expensive textiles in artistic effect.

This is the season of masked balls and fancy dress parties, and while, I dare say, the larger number of Comport readers do not attend these parties, they may like to hear something of them by way of entertainment, for one part of the world likes to know what the rest are doing, always.

So I am going to describe to you the dresses which took the prize at one of these parties, to illustrate what I have been trying to tell you, that it is not the most successful, and that originality and artistic taste, with a little money to help it will go further than a good deal of money without these two requisites.

The ball was given for a popular charity, one which the public had at heart, in California, where lavi

was being benefited, on the other side the year, worked in red, white and blue blossoms.

The moment they appeared there was a burst of applause, and everyone said to his neighbor, "There is the first prize," and sure enough it was.

was.
As a very great secret I am going to tell you who was the designer of these dresses, and one of the fortunate competitors. It was Comfort's jolly merry-maker, Harold Kinsabby.



The more home-like a room is the more attractive, and nothing is more easily arranged than a "cosy corner" in your sitting room. Possibly you have a bay-window that puzzles you a little when you are planning for your furniture. This window can be made the farorite resting-place for the member of your family who most needs rest.

Have the carpenter build a strong framework for a seat around the inside of the window. Cover this with soft cushions of cretonne in any color that will harmonize with your room. Have the seat broad enough for a couch and add two or three soft cushions for the corners. For your draperies use cotton rep; it is not expensive, and nothing drapes more satisfactorily. Don't let it fall in stiff folds but use a little originality in its disposition. You can knot a linen fringe for the edge, if you wish, or finish with bands of a contrasting color. If your "corner" is large enough, put in a small table for a lamp, and papers and magazines.

Let your curtains hang from a pole, and tie back loosely about two feet from the floor.



THE DRAPED MIRROR.

A novel design for framing a mirror is suggested by Comport's editor in the illustration. A long narrow mirror, unframed, is fastened between two windows; the window draperies of soft silk, or of imitation art silk (the latter can be purchased for 15 cents a yard) are arranged in artistic folds to fall from each window in such a manner as to completely frame the mirror. This is an original idea and will be appreciated by every one interested in adding to the beauty of their home.

Every housekeeper knows the value of a linen

the beauty of their home.

Every housekeeper knows the value of a linen press, with its shelves for sheets and pillow-cases, for table-cloths, napkins and covers. No matter how small the household this press is a necessity. It can be made by any carpenter at a small expense, and of any size desired. In the one given in the illustration, the shelves are finished with bands of embroidered linen.

On the inside of one door is fastened a list of everything the closet contains, on the other door is a slate on which is set down the articles taken out; when these are returned they can be erased from the slate.



A LINEN PRESS

Is our next number we shall have something to tell the Bees about knitting, crocheting and embroidering.

BUSY BEE Care of COMFORT.

OLD COINS WANTED, Big Prices for dates before 1877
Bed stamp for book worth for for a first according to the Country of the Co

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or Morphine Habit Cured at Home, Trial Free, No Pain, Comp'd Oxygen Ass'n, Ft. Wayne, Ind, UR NAME ON 25 ELEGANT FRIENDSHIP CARDS, Imported Ornameuts, 12 PINS, 1 Chain, 1 Lace Pin, dog, with our popular STORY PAPERS months, 10c. mples 25. LAUREL GARD CO., Glistowile, Conn.

GER and Tumors scientifically treated and cured. Book free. 163 Elm St., Dr. L. H. Gratigny, Circianati, Ohio.

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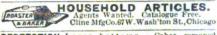
A BEAU tiful neck, face and arms. Don't pay 50c., but soft and white, or cure pimples, freekles, moth, wrinkles, &c. Warranted. P. R. BHO, Box 142, Augusta, Maine.

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YOUR NAME on SS Cards, NEW STYLES
THIS WHERE, Aute. Album.
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Fits Epilepsy. The only sure treatment. I insure an entire cure, to stay cured for life! I ask no fee Dr. Kruse, M. C. 2848 Arsenal St., St. Louis, Mo







THE MYSTIC CASTLE.

Correspondence in this department should be addressed to Oldcastle, Utica, N. Y. Correct name and address should accompany every communication, even when a nom de ptume is used.

Solvers to November Mysteries:—Waldemar, Ypsie, 10; W. E. Wiatt, 8; Cowboy, Frank, Ideal, Castranova, 8; Thinker, G. Whizz, Black-Eyed Charley, Locust, Sear, 6; So So, Remardo and Calo, Tyro, Lomax, Mrs. G. P. C., 6; Bourgeois, Pat Riot, Mrs. J. H. Cunningham, 4; Frank K. Sebring, U. Telle, Merlin, 2; J. H. Stambaugh, 1.

PRIZE-WINNERS:—1. Waldemar. 2. Ypsie. 3. W. E. Wiatt.

SPECIALS:-1. Castranova. 2. Lomax.

SOLUTIONS TO NOVEMBER MYSTERIES.

SOLUTIONS TO NOVEMBEI
No. 369. Carduus benedictus.
No. 361. Self-love.
No. 362. CARAC
ABIDER
RIPENED
ADELOPOD
CENOBITES
REPINER
DOTED
DER
S.

GAP
LANES
CANTEAP
PANTASTIC
PERSPICIL
SATINET
PICES
CIT
L

No. 368. Elope, pole. No. 369. Mysteries.

No. 364. Spin-age. No. 365. Methodical. R VE PURITAN USHERS No. 366.

No. 375.

AS N No. 372. CELL ECLAT LLAMAS LAMETTA TATTER STEAM ARMS L WAP LACES DETESTS WATERPATH LACE RTILOID PESTILENT STALELY STONY

HID COURBARIL CREATES NABOB REP

MYSTERIES. No. 382. Transposal.

No. 382. Transposal.
Once there was a lovely lassie,
Played the total with much grace
Which so like an organ has a
Keyboard, bellows, each in place;
And she played and sang the air,
While I tond it on the base,
And the chords we made were fair.
Now the lass (and sister Mary)
Sing no more, for they are dead;
Sister's casket's made of cherry,
And above a pall they spread;
"Her's a pine" one, where she sleeps,
Safely housed among the dead,
Where each shade its vigils keeps.
Dubois, Ills.,
Na. 383. Square.
1. A kind of pick. 2. Stubborn. 3. A

ASPIRO.

1. A kind of pick. 2. Stubborn. 3. A glucoside. 4. One who examines. 5. The cessation of agitation. 6. Brings to light. 7. Dost lease.
Ridge, Ohio, ROKEBY.

No. 384. Charade.

The first is only a little thing,
Yet everyone knows its name,
11's used alike by peasant and king,
Through it many have won fortune and fame.

The second is another small word, (Pedagogues call it an article.) And many a girl's name is heard, But that does not matter a particle.

And many a girl's name is heard,
Buf that does not matter a particle.

The third and last, I'm using this minute
In connection with my first, I trow,
You think there is nothing in it,
Yet my whole is before you now.

Burnside, Ills.,
Nos. 385-6. I cosahedrous.

(1) 1. A kind of cloth. 2. Departure. 3. One who
sets traps. 4. Language of Scotland. 5. A fruit. 6.
To venerate. 7. An open hand. 8. A numerical symbol. 9. A token of honor. 10. An instrument for
measuring vibrations of sound. 11. Those who bring
forth young. 12. Views. 13. Musical syllables.
San Francisco, Cal.,
(2) 1. A district in which a particular power is exercised. 2. Cruel. 3. Curved in two directions. 4. The
evil genius of the Persians. 5. Small furrows. 6.
Malignant persons. 7. To presame (obs.) 8. To punish in general. 9. Dark. 10. Spanish composer and
volinist (1775-1832). 11. A natural reservolr. 12. To
cont. n. 13. A hollow in the earth.
W...erford, N.Y.,
Nos. 387-8. Stars.

Nos. 387-8. Stars.

Nos. 387-8. Stars.

(1) 1. A letter. 2. In case that. 3. A mineral species in the early work on mineralogy. 4. Means. 5. The Gothic vault. 6. A light ribbon. 7. Companions. 8. An abbreviation. 9. A letter.

Colgate, N. Dakota,

PAT RIOT.

Colgate, N. Dakota,

(2) I. A letter. 2. So. 3. Certain fruits. 4. Pertaining to salt. 5. Scent. 6. The surfaces at which the electric currents enter the electrotypes. 7. Brightens. 8. To see (obs.) 9. A letter.

Pendletonville, Texas,

BOURGEOIS.

No. 389. Charade. No. 389. Charade. Here before you, you will find Puzzles, if you feel inclined; To unrayel them at leisure, You will find it quite a pleasure. Now and then you may indite Cons for "Mystic Castle" bright. Take a total and a pen; Thoughts a few, and in your den Write them legibly, well, But the answer do not tell Little fart from out the last Used in times long since gone past; Still, if necessary, you May continue still to do. Write at once, your puzzles scan, I will answer, if I can. San Francisco, Cal.,
No. 390. Charade.

No. 390. Charade.

OEDIPUS.

No. 399. Charade.
There sailed on Massachusetts Bay
A lonely fisherman.
In daily quest of last they say,
Believe it if you can.
Here is the yarn he spun for me
Upon a chilly night.
"I'm never quite alone." said he,
"I've cronies worth a sight.

Pertaining to an elementary substance. 8. To fare sumptuously. 9. A fabled giant of ancient theology. 10. To shear (obs.) 11. A small coin. 12. An abbreviation. 13. A letter.

Park Side, Ills., Cowboy.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

For the first three complete or largest lists of solutions to this month's Mysteries, the following prizes will be awarded:

1. Webster's handy dictionary.

2. Fountain Pen of Comfort.

3. Ten complete novels.

Specials:—Two six-months' subscriptions to Comfort, awarded by lot among the rest of the solvers. Contest closes April 1.

Solutions, solvers and prize-winners in May "Mystic Castle."

THE MAIDEN'S VOW.

"Come rest in this bosom," "Comrades," and 142 other very popular songs with music will be sent free if you address Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine, and enclose 4c. for postage when writing for new catalogue and premium list for Comfort.

LADIES' FANCY WORK SET.

LADIES' FANCY WORK SET.

We have just imported thousands of Crochet Sets, they contain 3 vegetable ivory and steel crochet hooks different sizes, coming in a sorew top wooden case; these sets are what every lady wants in her work basket or for pocket companion. One hook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Comport, Augusta, Maine, desire to have all read the grand February issue and will send one of these complete sets free to all who send de. for mailing same together with sample copy of February Comport.

THE LUCIFER MATCH.



The demand for matches is always continuous. Every match burnt demands a new match to supply its place.

Adam Smith has instructed us that the business of making a pin is divided into about eighteen distinct operations; and further, that ten persons could make upward of 48,000 a day with the division of labor; while if they all wrought independently and separately, they could not each of them have made twenty. The lucifer match is a similar example of the importance of labor-saving machinery. The beginning of the history of the match is at the factory, where the best Norway deals are cut into splints, twice the length of the completed match, by special machines. These little pieces, beautifully accurate in their minute squareness, are made up into bundles and then carried to the "dipping house" where, without being separated, each end of the bundle is first dipped into sulphur (which renders them more easily lignited). When dry the splints, adhering to each other by means of the sulphur, must be parted by what is called "dusting."

They have now to be tipped with a preparation of phosphorus, or chlorate of potash, according to the quality of the match. The vhosphorus produces the pale, noiseless fire; the chlorate of potash the sharp, crackling illumination.

The matches are then dried and gathered up again into bundles. The dexterity and rapidity with which the cutting of the splints in the middle—forming two perfect matches—and the boxing process, which is their final preparation for market are accomplished, is nothing short of marvellous.

The strange, ghostly chemical, phosphorus, exerts a peculiar and very deadly effect upon the human system, and the men and women employed in the manufacture of matches are liable, in spite of the utmost care, to lose their health after a few months, being attacked by a blood-poisoning disease which begins almost invariably in the lower jaw and increases to a fatal end. In England the match-girls are among the most miserable of any working class.

PILES CURED FREE!

A new, certain, painless cure for all forms of piles; gives immediate relief, and permanent cure. To prove it we will send a trial package Free to any one for one 2c. stamp for postage. Address Pyramid Drug Co., Albion, Mich.

ADIES I HAVE A SECRET FOR YOU, Ad, with two 2-cent stamps Mrs.J.H.Cronin, Marshall, Mich





FREE TO ANY BODY. We make the first present of the first on my smooth the first on my smooth the first on my lead when a present of the first pr



Highest cash prices paid for old and rare Coins, Revenue and Postage Stamps, 3s paid for rare 1863 quarter, 4.5 for rare 187 quar-d for 1847 half cent, 56 for 1849 half cent, 21 to or other rare coins. We will send book giving tes, prices paid, &c., and our sejendid story

\$300.00 200 PARLOR ORNAMENTS,

Silk Dresses,

In Cold,
20 Solid Gold
Genuine
Diamond Rings,
10 Handsome
Silk Dresses,
Urrisb you the capital to commence business with. Dresses, WANTED, We have you the capital to commence business with so for particulars, HOBB'S MEDICINE CO., carborn Street OHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

ARE YOU "IN IT"? E IF SO, ANSWER THIS ADV'T TO-DA AND YOU CAN OBTAIN A WATCH ! FREE!

HIS elegant hunting case stem-woulding and stem-secting watch, at a low valuation, is fully worth #35, being fully jew-led, movement quaranteed as to time-keeping accuracy, with warranted filled 404. Decading, most beaufidily engraved in latest style, Ladies, with warranteed filled 404. Decading, most beaufidily engraved in latest style, Ladies, and Genta' sizes. Do you want one? If so, simply comply with terms. C.T. G.T. T.H.B. ADVT and return to me with 25 cents in silver and I will mall you post-paid a box of "SIXW OF FAIN," the world's great remedy for pains and aches in man and beast, with full instructions how you can WITHOUT FAIL make money easier than you ever dream of. For a limited period with a view to boom my Fail and Winter business, I have decided upon receipt of your order with 25 c. to send ABSULT'LLY FIRES the premium illustrated below. This is no humbug, but a bona-fied offer emanating from a thoroughly reliable business house, and addressed to the readers of this paper. "SING OF FAIN" alone will pay you fifty times over. Address of this paper. "SING OF FAIN" alone will pay you fifty times over. Address of this paper. "SING OF FAIN" alone will pay you fifty times over. Address of this paper. "SING OF FAIN" alone will pay you fifty times over. Address of this paper. "SING OF FAIN" alone will pay you fifty times over. Address of this paper. "SING OF FAIN" alone will pay you fifty times over.

ZGS Sent Same Day Answers are Received

A PRIZE FOR EVERY CORRECT ANSWER.

A PRIZE FOR EVERY CORRECT ANSWER.

EVERY PERSON who mentions this paper and sends a correct solution to this rebus will revelve a prize. \$100 cash for the First; \$75 cash for the Second; \$50 cash for the Third; \$25 cash for the Fourth; A Solid Gold Watch, genuine American Movement and fancy dial, to the next; 50; a Solid Gold Genuine Diamond Ring to each of the next \$5; a Beautiful Sik Dress Pattern to each of the next \$5; a Beautiful Sik Dress Pattern to each of the next \$5, and for every other correct answer a Handsome Parior Ornament. Every correct answer received by regular mail on or before April 20th, 853, will get a prize. We send the prizes the same day answers are received. With your answer to the rebus we require you to send \$5 cents, in stamps or silver, for one year's trial subscription to our great magazine, The CHICAGO HOUSEHOLD GUEST, one of the best monthlies in the world, containing brilliant stories, Household Departments, Fashions and Deightful Miscellany. The names and addresses of the winners of all these prizes will be printed in the HOUSEHOLD GUEST after date given above. We make this great offer expressly to gain 20,000 new subscribers to the HOUSEHOLD GUEST this year. These prizes are purchased specially for and given to new sub cribers only. As each prize given away advertises our splendid magazine we can afford to spend the money to do it, for THE HOUSEHOLD GUEST, wherever it goes, is welcomed as among the best family magazines published. Remember, that for \$5 cents you get this excellent magazine one year and a handsome prize also, and if you are among the first you are sure of one of the big prizes. We generantee satisfaction and if you can honestly say afterward that you are not pleased with your bargain we will cheerfully return the money. Address CHICAGO HOUSE-HOLD GUEST, Chicago, Ill.

GOOD SALARY BUARANTEED to ladder

few days. Never returns. No purge, no salve suppository, no indelicacy. Malled free. Add J. H. REEVES, Box 3230, New York City, N.



THE CHIMNEY CORNER will give \$22 bash to the 1st person sending a correct of the to the above Rebus. To the 2d \$15 to he 5d; \$100 to the 4th \$25. To the ni, \$35 cach. To each of the next \$6, a \$60 to WITCH. To the next \$10, a \$6an will \$25 SHE Bress. To each of low lost \$100 to ers. We have given away over \$20 00 and premiums to our subscribers in the years. Write your answer and name THE CHIMNEY CORNER. 189 BROADWAY, New York City.

You 99 ств. Can Get an American Lever 99 == Watch for 99 cts.

TO TO TO TO

WE WILL POSITIVELY send a gene lean lever Watch, which will run and ke for 99 cia-to introduce at once into every t Special Brand of Cigars. For 99 cents Juring the next 60 days any person (either sex) or tiful Watches, who will send us an order, with 90 containing 100 of our KHTLAND ROSA PE CIGARS. There are the very best Cigars





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\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ GIVEN

EVERY BRAINY PERSON CAN WIN A PRIZE.

In order to secure 500,000 New Subscribers to our Family Magazine before April first, 1893, the undersigned Company has determined to make this colosed offer, of giving a prize to each and every subscriber who sends us a correct answer to our spelling contest. We have an ample capital and we are going to secure an immense number of new subscribers in a simple, comprehensive and business way, if morey can doi. Remember this juriely a business undertaking with us, we have the capital and we can well afford to give to each new subscribers the prize as we offer, as we will derive immense revonues from the advertising space in our paper, besides Thousands of Bollars from subscribers who renew when their subscriptions have expired. Remember, you do not pay for the prizes, we give them away free.

OUR CONTEST! We have taken the six letters N O T I C from which thirty small not use the same letter more than once in any one word. Examples Lee, Nice, and so on until thirty words are spelled. To the first person senting us fifteen or more words spelled correctly, we will give \$1,000.00; as cond person, \$500.00; third person, \$250.00; next ten following, \$350.00; and the to win one of the six letters of the same letter more than once in any one word. Examples Lee, Nice, and so on until thirty words are spelled. Of the first person senting us fifteen or more words spelled correctly, we will give \$1,000.00; as cond person, \$500.00; third person, \$250.00; next ten following, \$350.00; and the summer of the su

Write your words very plainly, enclosing subscription money, and address HOUSEHOLD TOPICS PUB. CO., 284 Pearl St., (Box 1159). NEW YORK.

How to Send a Letter to the Dead Letter Office.

Letter Office.

VERY day brings thousands of letters to Comport and every day we find among them one or two scoldings for not sending something the writer ordered, but of which alas, we are in profound ignorance owing to the fact that our correspondent through haste or carelessness has made an error in directing the letters, forgotten to stamp it, written illegibly, or im some unimportant detail failed to conform to the few simple rules which Uncle Sam insists upon as one of his conditions as part of the price for performing so much labor for so tittle money. Nothing in the world can possibly equal our postal service in point of cheapness. We never know what a great blessing the Post-Office is until a great storm comes and cuts off communication for a day or two. You have just received a letter from your brother at school some distance off, and was distressed to hear of his illness. You anxiously await the next letter which you hope will tell you of his recovery. A snow storm comes, the roads are blockaded, and it will be days before the letter comes to hand. What a long period of anxiety this is! How you almost count the moments as they slowly drag along! Here comes the postman at last! "Been a big storm out West," he says. "and the mails are three days late; we have got heavy work this morning," and on he jogs laden down with the accumulated mail till he looks like a veritable pack-horse.

But a more frequent cause of detention in the receipt of letters is the carclessness of the senders themselves. One would imagine that everybody knew enough to stamp a letter, but the most frequent and vexitious delays arise from a failure to do this simple act. Then the Post-Office is roundly abused, or the friend who has apparently neglected to answer your note suffers the blame. It is always a good rule when you feel aggrieved from this cause, to remember that only human agencies are employed in the transmission of mail matter, and that like all things human they are not infallible. Therefore when you fail to receive an

Our artist has sketched from life the Dead Letter Office as it is to-day in Washington, and if you ever go to that beautiful city you will see it just as it appears in Compon's pictures. It is well worth a visit and the moral it teaches

may save you a world of trouble.
Comport has in preparation many other interesting scenes from different cities in our great country and the readers of Comport inductine will gain as good an idea of the country we live in as if they traveled over it themselves.

One of the most interesting books of the year will shortly be published in Boston. It is entitled "The Story of our Post-Office," and is written by Mr. Marshall Cushing, the Private Secretary of Postmaster General Wanamaker. Mr. Cushing is an old newspaper man and during the four years in which he has served the Government he has collected a mass of interesting matter concerning the postal service which will interest every reader. The advance sheets of this book show it to be full of information and the most romantic, laughable, tragic and wonderful incidents on record. The author is widely known as one of the raciest and ablest writers in the newspaper world. The position he has occupied with Mr. Wanamaker during the past four years is the highest commendation of this work, which is certain to be of interest to every reader seeking the marvellous combined with facts concerning that branch of governmental service which is most in touch with the common people. The book is sure to be one which will interest everyone and will also give as much instruction as it will interest and amusement.

Happenings Here, There Pronder.

Apples contain excellent medicinal qualities for all and especially for those who do not get enough physi-cal exercise.

The Kansas Federation of Labor wishes a law bassed making it a felony to keep a barber shop open on Sunday

By the aid of modern machinery it is possible to cut out and complete a pair of ladies' shoes in twenty

LETTERS FOR THE WASTE

Cupiesiting Soun The My

An enterprising stock raiser at Saratoga Springs is trying to breed white horses. His experience so far is rather discouraging, as he finds that oolts of white parents are liable to be any other color, while white colts are sometimes born of parents of all colors, from black to bay.

No one can realize how minute a form life can take. The most powerful microscopes show tiny animals so small that their shapes are not distinguishable, and there is no reason to suppose that there are not others still smaller, and perfectly invisible even with the most modern of scientific instruments.

The United States Government has taken a wise step in importing into Alaska some Siberian rein-deer. This will furnish the natives with a new source of food and transportation. The reindeer can keep a steady gait of ten miles an hour, and is both ridden and driven.

reden and driven.

People who ascribe Jay Gould's success to "luck" will be willing to change their opinion when they learn that at the age of 15 he took charge of a surveying party to complete the maps of various New York counties, and also that his work shows good, hard, conscientious work. The experience he gained as a surveyor was of the utmost assistance to him in after life, when examining ratiroads.

Chicago has mounted a few police officers, in citizen's clothes, upon bleycles, and finds men so equipped to be of great value on account of both speed and noisclessness. The silent steed also bids fair to take its place among the appliances of warfare being ridden by troops under favorable circumstances. The postmaster general recommends that mails be collected and delivered by men on bicycles, in suburban districts.

Learn to reason instead of to memorize. A school

in suburban districts.

Learn to reason instead of to memorize. A school superintendent of many years' experience says that the boys who recited lessons and memorized rules the total proper the strength of the second of the se

Dr. McGlynn of St. Stephen's Church, New York, who was excommunicated on account of his sympathy with Henry George in his ideas regarding the proprietorship of land, has been restored to the excise of priestly functions by the Pope, through his representative, Mgr. Satolli, who has recently been visiting America. It is a question whether he returns to his former parish, although the people are anxious to have him once more as their spiritual leader.

When a letter for some reason or other is not delivered, it is sent to the Dead Letter Office in Washington, to whom all inquiries are adressed when missing mail matter is in question. After lying there for one month each letter is opened and returned to the sender, whenever the address of the writer is given. That's one reason why it is always important to date your letter with your full Post-Office address, and to put your full name at the end of the letter. Should it ever go astray this will ensure its being returned to you some time or other unless it has been absolutely destroyed. It is selden that a letter is lost entirely—it turns up sooner or later somewhere.

Another cause of detention is a violation of the Postal Laws. It is against the law to send anything that will cut, like glass or anything breakable, or live frogs, insects or specimens of natural history preserved in alcohol, or anything that in any way is apt to damage other mail that is carried in the same bag. A curious collection of contraband articles is displayed in glass cases in the Department. One instance that came to my notice was a love letter written on a shingle. Then came two bird's nests with eggs in them. A couple of human skulls, a large rag doll about a yard long, whose fate doubtless caused some poor little heart lots of pain. Serpents in bottles, lizards, an open paper of carpet tacks, false hair, false teeth, and the material for making a false complexion are also among the collection.

It is not so pleasing an occupation as one would think, to be always reading some one

are also among the collection.

It is not so pleasing an occupation as one would think, to be always reading some one else's letters, and the young ladies whose duty it is to do this see nothing funny in the gushy, love-sick epistles which come under their notice. Frequently however a letter of more than usual interest comes before them, and many a drama in real life is revealed. In one experience of which I knew, an' undelivered letter kept apart for ten long years two young people who were each angered at the other, for a failure to acknowledge its receipt. The young man left the country in anger to return a rich West India planter. Thinking of his early days he recalled the girl he left behind him, and discovered her in a far distant part of the world. Explanations were briefly made and after a long separation the two were united.

A hunter was recently shot by his own dog, who sprang upon him affectionately, but hit the trigger of the gun with his paw.

STAVINGLETTINGS

A prisoner down south begged some bird shot of his jailor. He melted them down, made a key and escaped with a comrade.

A postal card was recently sent around the world, gathering seventy-two postmarks. It afterwards sold for \$50 to a stamp collector.

The Columbian postage stamps now in circulation will attract attention, both on account of their increased size and excellent workmanship.

Chief Justice Lamar, of the United States Supreme Court, is quite feeble, and fears entertained that he will never be able to assume his official duties.

A great organ, to cost \$30,000 is now being erected for the World's Pair, and famous musicians from all over the world will be invited to give performances upon it. The popular movement for the improvement of roads is attracting universal attention, and the agitation will doubtless result in a vast change for the better.

An American living in Germany says that the apers there publish the unpleasant news from the nited States, with little or no good reports, in order ocheck emigration.

School-boys will welcome the new mechanical cal-ulator which shows at a glance square and cube coots, as well as many other and more complicated

problems.

The interesting writer, Rudyard Kipling, says that the trade maxim in London, Yokohoma and Hong Kong, in doing business with an American, is to keep him waiting. Their usual impatience will soon place them greatly at a disadvantage in a bargain.

Last December, for the first time in many years the immigration from America to other lands, was in excess of the arrivals upon our shores. This was occasioned by the restrictions placed upon immigration during the cholera scare.

A young man called at a bicycle dealer's store in Worcester, Mass., inspected a bicycle, tried it, and the owner did not see the wheel again until a month or two later when it was found in a Boston pawn shop.

A famous chess champion recently gave an exhibition in New York City, in which he played blind-folded against five opponents, vanquishing them all. He says that he can mentally see every board before him, with the exact position of all the pieces.

Ex-President Hayes did not carry a watch, the reason for which peculiarity illustrates one of the traits of his character. It appears that in his younger days the watch he then carried was the cause of sending two men to the penitentiary. It was stolen from his pocket; the thief was captured, tried, convicted and sent to the penitentiary for a term of years. Mr. Ilayes recovered his watch, and a second time it was stolen. The thief turned out to be a poor man with a large family, and after he was sent to the penitentiary Mr. Hayes came to the conclusion that he would get rid of the cause of so much trouble to his fellowmen. Since their he never owned a watch.

Stops toothache instantly, Dent's Toothache Gum. All Druggists, or send 15 cts. Dent & Co., Detroit, Mich.

is said that Dr. J. H. Moore of Cincinnati, O. has discovered a positive cure for Deafne and Catarrh, and to introduce it, is sendi medicines for three months treatment, free those who send him their address.

\$1100 FOR EARLY TOMATOES.

Siloo FOR EARLY TOMATOES.

The Seed establishment of F. B. Mills, Rose Hill, N. Y., is largely advertised in our paper. One of his great points is producing the largest, earliest and best yielding varieties of vegetables, etc. He has paid \$500 for a 3 pound tomato, \$200 for a Bean plant with 100 pods, and this year his premiums beat anything ever offered by a Seedsman. He is anxious to know who can produce ripe Tomatoes in the least number of days from day of planting seed and offers \$400 to the person growing one in 75 days from day-Seed is sown, also many other prizes for other vegetables, etc.

Mr. Mill's Ad. appears in another column and our readers should send for a Catalogue.

R. W. E. SKINNER, Boston, Mass, who advertises for coins, is reliable. Get his catalogue

GOITRE QUINSY and other Throat diseases cured by the Medicated Throat Bundage. Write at once to Physicians' Remedy Co. Cincinnati, O.

JAMES C. BLAINE only complete work pub.; complete outfit mailed for 10c. Address, National Pub. Co., Chicago, Ill.

RAME ON 25 LOVELY CARDS

\$7.50. WATCHES

PARLOR SET 45c.

slogue of 1000 necessary articles with each set (or free on uest.) INGERSOLL & BRO., 65 Cortlands St., N. Y. CITY.

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With Electro-Magnetic SUSPENSORY.

Latest Patenta! Best Improvement!
Will cure without medicine all weakness resulting from over-taxation of brain, nervo forces, sleeplessness, languor, rheumatism, kidney, liver and bladder complaints, lame back, lumbago, sciatica, general ill-heaith, etc. This electric beit contains Wonderful Improvements over all others, and gives a current that is instantly felt by wearer or we forfeit \$5,000. Thousands have been cured by this marvelous invention after all other remedies failed; we give hundreds of testimonials.

Our powerful IMPROVED ELECTRIC SUSPENSORY, the Our powerful IMPROVED ELECTRIC SUSPENSORY, the Health of the control of the co

99 OF INSTRUCTIONS FREE



BEAUTIFUL PROFITABLE

KENSINGTON S'TAMPING was never more popular than to-day. Many ladies making high wages working at home, odd hours. Besides beautifying your own home you can make 15c. every 5 minutes you stamp for others. If you only devote 3 hours a day to it, the same little sam of 85 and over comes in, as the prices range from 5c. to §1 for each pattern you stamp. An inventive genius has lately modernized machinery for turning out these patterns by the handsed pards as fast as you can reel off a ball of varn, so handsed pards as fast as you can reel off a ball of varn, so the patterns on strips about the patterns on the work of the patterns on strips about 15c. and MORSE & CO., Box 70 Augr



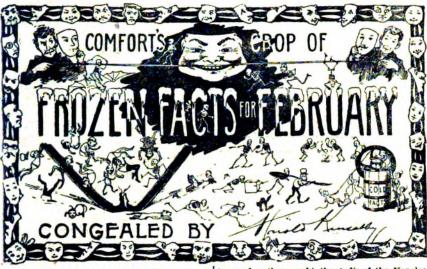
NO LOTTERY. Outline with pen or pen-cil the Swan and Butterfly in above picture; cut out this advertisement; send 50c. to our address given below and you will receive by mailfree a full sized bottle of

Dirnou's Cotorrhol Downdor BILITED 2 CATALLITAT LOMARI

WITH BLOWER ALL COMPLETE.

The Powder is the invention of one of the foremost specialists in Diseases of the Nose and THROATIL gives especialists in Diseases of the Nose and THROATIL gives classant relief, and permanently cures, Catarrh, Hay Fever, Tonsilitis, Quinsy, etc. No rubber bulb or atomizer needed. Powder and Blower carried in your vest pocket. The simplest thing possible: yet a sure cure pocket. The simplest thing possible: yet a sure cure Deside receiving this bottle in full return for your money you will have a share in the distribution of CASH PRESENTS value \$204 00

1st correct answer, \$20. 180th correct answer, \$5. 50th " \$5. 300th " " \$5. 30th " " " \$5. 30th " "





HERE are two robust reasons why so many of our first citizens are wretched in their domestic relations, while plain, sensible men like journalists, are exceedingly happy. One is that the vain desire to be pointed out as the owner of a great head leads man to bubble over with sweetness and guil before every woman he mets except the one has bound to himself with a wedding bow and arrow. And this gives rise to feelings of the profoundest variety, for the wife and mother who will not be highly disagreeable when she finds herself seglected, has not yot been found by the census taker. The second reason in the Mask Ball which is in full seglected, has not yot been found by the census taker. The second reason in the Mask Ball which is in full seglected, has not yot been found by the census taker. The second reason in the Mask Ball is not known, but judging by the misery it has brought to mankind, he must have lived in Chicago, or at least shaken hands with the devil.

Some frozen facts about a case where this base kind of ball came near virecking a once happy home have just been taken from the refrigerator. For the sake of the children, of whom there are cleven, the names if the couple who, by the vay, formerly belonged to Augusta, but now reside in New York, are withheld, it seems that the woman in the case, who is of a nightly jealous disposition, but otherwise lovely, and reason to bolleve that her hubband was going to attend the Grand Merrymalter's Masquerade last week, although he solemnly assured her it was his lodge night.

Belloving that every woman should be her own detective, she called in a lady friend who is connected with the stage and by the aid of a pair of pink tights, a golder wile, appropriate stage jewels and a few the challenge her beautiful neck and shoulders. Being a lady of remarkably fine figure, the pink tights, also fair.

tot, see started to have or the Liar.

Being a lady of remarkably fine figure, the pink sights displayed her beautiful neck and shoulders with startling effect—as the society papers would put



it. And although the children giggled and asked her if she wasn't afraid of catching cold or being arrested, her own mother declared that she looked sweeter than Adelaide Neilson ever dared to look.

Now, when a voman is jealoue, and mad, and handsome, it doesn't take her long to do a thing, and the way this little lady shadowed her husband simply drives Pinkerton's detective stories right out into the woodshed. For two long hours she watched him dirting with the false-faced girls and indulging in conduct entirely unbecoming a husband and father of cloven children. Near support time she cet her own cap for him in carnest, and when the poor victim maggested Delmonico's she nodded consent with a grace and readiness that would have made Pauline Markham's hand swim. During all their ten years residence in New York he hadn't even once taken her to Del's, and the cenderness with which the old reprobate now helped his pretty little Page in Pink to a seat in the carriage and continued his fiirtation nearly gave her heart failure. She was bound, however, to see just what such men are made of, and she played her role like an eight hundred doliars a week star bloker. But it was a fearful struggle. When he suddenly begged for 'one sweet kiss before we part'' she felt like calling the police but by dexterously ducking her head the kiss became entangled in her golden tresses and fell lifeless upon her left ear. Again he aimed at the resy lips, but the sly glances of the silvery moon stole in this time and revealed to him his wife's numasked face in all its effervescent wrath.

The attending physician says that with absolute quiet and careful nursing the husband may be out again by spring, but that he shows unmistakable symptoms of having had a stroke of paralysis during the last lodge night.

THE same mysterious law which causes a slice of bread to fall butter-side down, seems invariably to

THE same mysterious law which causes a slice of bread to fall butter-side down, seems invariably to land the newly-made bride and groom in the clutches of the photographer. And it is a serio-comic fact that love's young dream frequently has its picture taken under difficulties.

The other day two fond hearts embarked from Maine on the journey of life, by way of New York. When they reached the metropolis, both he and she thought it would be ever so nice to have her photographed in all that bridal gorgeousness which had caused the Togus Transcript to remark that "the classic beauty of the blushing bride held every eye in raptsuspense."

rauspense."

Very man who has been more or less married 25 cents to Dr. H. A. Miner, Malden, Mass.

too good, so they sought the studio of the Napoleon of Negatives, agreed to pay \$14 per dozen and look

pleasant.

The groom, who by the way, is a six-footer, evidenily believes that life is made up of little things, for his better half is what most people would call

for his better half is what most people would clivy.

As she must of course have her portrait taken standing to show her vestibule train, she wanted to appear as tall as possible, and therefore proceeded to a fashionable hairdresser, to have her upper story artificially elongated. This artist in headgear erected a sort of Eiffel Tower Junior upon her head, and as the natural crop was exceedingly scant, he deftly worked in a generous amount of "London dyed" that matched beautifully and which she agreed to return after the agony was over.

In order not to throw this hair



worked in a generous amount of "London dyed" that matched beautifully and which she agreed to return after the agony was over.

In order not to throw this hair stack out of plumb the young bride had to proceed bareheaded to the photographer's, and as she walked flown Fifth Avenue, her hat and train in one hand and the regulation bride's bouquet in the otherwhile the attentive hus be and meekly brought in the otherwhile the attentive hus be and my the rear with his overcoat pockets building out with such trifless as satin slippers, flask of smelling out with such trifless as satin slippers, flask of smelling out with such trifless as satin slippers, flask of smelling out with such trifless as satin slippers, flask of smelling out with such trifless as satin slippers, flask of smelling out with such trifless as satin slippers, flask of smelling out with such trifless as satin slippers, flask of smelling out with such trifless as satin slippers, flask of smelling out with such trifless as as the slippers, flask of smelling flask of smelling out with such trifless as as the slippers, flask of smelling flask of smelling flask of smelling flask of smelling out with such trifless as as the slippers, flask of smelling flask of smelling flask of smelling flask of smelling out with such trifless as as the slippers, flask of smelling to those of Lillian Russell and Mary Anderson said that she wanted hers taken "just like that." At this, Ferguson, who was born to blush unseen, poked his head under the black cloth of the camera, so that he could snicker in concealment, while Sarony of course preserved his artistic balance, knowing that her husband had been calling her the lovellest woman in the world about fifty the sweet stamile he posed her in front of the big white screen, tussed around, squinted through the machine at her and then propped up her head with a pair of photographic tongs just back of

sarrolly suppress his insane desire to slaughter the artist.

By this time the little "sitter"—who in this case was standing—was getting nervous beyond endurance, and just as the operator, bent upon catching the finest feature of her face, requested her to turn her head first to one side and then to the other, the tong arrangement became hopelessly entangled in her hair and with ene sickening swoop literally snatched the little lady bald-headed.

With a shriek, she bounded into her husband's arms and both vanished from the scene, leaving only the sad wreck festooned about the head-prop, while Napoleon did a raging war-dance around the scalp of his victim. Next morning he received a bill from the hairdrdsser asking settlement for 1 Puff, 2 Rats, 3 Switches and a Laugtry Wave.

But the bridal couple never came back.



THE reason why folks don't enthuse more over Washington's birthday is because the truth about George hasn't been half told. History has painted the Father of his Country in Sabbath-school colors and surrounded him with a sort of keep-off-the-grass halo, when as a matter of fact there was a strong seasoning of the Old Harry in the make-up of the immortal G. W. And there is, after all, nothing that so warms and wins the healthy human heart as a bit of simon-pure sin and deviltry. It is to the overage mortal what the otter of roses is to the otter, and George had it to the Queen's taste.

For over a century George has been drawing a fat salary as a saint, without having any of the wages of sin charged up against him. And yet, according to his own nurse, who is now one hundred and nineteen years old—and who lives in Mississippi and in full hopes of a glorious future—he used to go to school and plague timid little boys by pointing his index finger at them and exclaiming in a disagreeable tone of volce: "He has no shirt on! he has no shirt on!" And then when his weeping victims fied to their mothers or teachers, and pulled down their vests, George would try to explain the outrage away by claiming that he simply meant his own finger had no shirt on.

It's a plty that the truth about George isn't more

shirt on.

It's a pity that the truth about George isn't more generally known.

A young woman who is employed in the telephone office in Chicago was discharged for allowing an account of her being robbed by a highwayman to be published without first asking the permission of the telephone company's officials.

Out in Missouri a prominent capitalist is being prosecuted for neglecting or refusing to vote, at the last election. The law in that State provides a fine of \$250 for this offense. It would arouse American citizens quite effectually to a realizing sense of their responsibility in this matter, if such a law should be generally adopted throughout the country.

Berma-Royale is the new discovery for dissolving and removing discolorations from the cuticle, and bleaching and brightening the complexion. The proprietors, the Derma-Royale Co., Cincinnati, Ohio, agree to forfeit \$500 cash, for any case of mothpatches, brown spots, liver spots, blackheads, ugly or muddy skin, unnatural redness, freckles, tan, or any other cutaneous discoloration (excepting birth-marks, scars, and those of a scrofulous or kindred nature), that Derma-Royale will not quickly remove and cure. It is perfectly harmless and will be sent anywhere for \$1.00 per bottle. Agents are wanted.



A FOOT-HOLD
for Consumption is what you
are offering, if your blood is
impure. Consumption is simplous condition, with a slight
cough or cold, is all that it
needs to develop it.

But just as it depends upon
the blood for its origin, so it
depends upon the blood for
its cure. The surest remedy
for Scrofula in every form,
the most effective blood-cleanser, flesh-builder, and strengththe most effective blood-cleanser, flesh-builder, and strength-restorer that's known to medical science, is Doctor Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. For Consumption in all its earlier stages, and for Weak Lungs, Asthma, Severe Coughs, and all Bronchial, Throat, and Lung affections, that is the only remedy so unfailing that it can be guaranteed. If it doesn't benefit or cure, you have your money back.

No matter how long you've had Catarrh, or how severe, Dr. Sage's Remedy will effect a permanent cure. \$500 reward is offered by the proprietors of this medicine, for an incurable case of Catarrh.

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ANTISEPTIC SHAVING STICKS * BARS. Impossible to contract a skin disease when lusist on your barber using it when shaving you.

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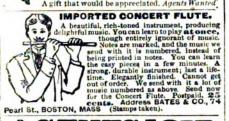
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Containing 22.800 words and their definitions, given names of men and women, rules for use of capitals and punctuation marks, business forms, postal laws, laws of etiquette, tables of weights and measures, crasable tablet for memorandums, etc. Price, bound in American Russia leather, gilt edge and indexed, 50 cents; bound in imitation seal, red edge and not indexed, 25 cents. Sent prepaid on receipt of P.O. order. Mention this Journal.

F. M. THOMPSON, Danbury, Conn A gift that would be appreciated. Agents Wanted



AGENTS LOOK and Farmers with no experience make \$2.50 an hour during spare time. A. D. BATES, 164 W. Robbins Ave., Covington, Ky., made \$21 one day, \$81 one week. So can you. Proofs and catalogue free, J. E. SHEPARD & Co., Cincinnati, Q.



\$2.500 IN PRIZ \$700 for the largest Finch Tree 1898, \$600 for 2d, \$500 for 3d, \$4 8300 for the 5th, Condition 3d, \$4 The MANSFIELD TO FINCH'S EVERGREEN CU GENUINE SURE-HEAD FINCH'S PERFECTION LET

The finest variety in the world. D like some varieties, but forms huge, come plants, which are always very crisp nnd \$27\$ I will send a packet each of Fine mato, Mansfield Tomato, Evergreen Out head Gabbage and Perfection Lettuce, trated Catalogue, also 7 Valumble Sec which cost \$3(0) to obtain. All by mail only 25 cents in silver or 30 cents FIVE CINNAMON VIN

This rapid-growing vine, with it: beshaped leaves, glossy green peculic; foliacate white bloesoms, emitting a delicid fragrance, will grow from 10 to 30 ft. in a and for covering Arbors, Screens, or Vernout a rival, I will send 5 Bulbs free accessive premarks. The bulbs will prove the Tomnto Collection. The bulbs will prove that I will be some the property per a crackly the same in every reaches. FRANK FINCH (Box O) CLY

Every person sending for the abort Collection will receive a certificate whithem to To cents worth of Choice Seeds to the Conference of th



HOW TO MAKE



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This grand box of seeds contains one packet each of 35-standard sorts. Note that the second standard sorts are seeds contained to 14 the second seeds contained to 15 the seed



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Under this head are published every month the best original short stories received under the following prize offer and the writers of which have complied with the conditions here named.
Only regular subscribers of Comport may compete for the prizes. All contributions must bear the writer's full name and address; must be written on one side of the paper only and be mailed in a sealed envelope, duly stamped, to EDITOR NUTSHELL STORY CLUB, care of COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE. All stories must be strictly original and contributors may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, faucy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace; of city or country life, or of experiences on land or seabut no story must contain more than 1200 or less than 800 words. No manuscript will be returned unless an addressed and stamped envelope is enclosed.
The writer of the best original story will receive \$25 cash; of the second best, \$20 cash; of the third best, \$15 cash and of the fourth best, \$10 cash.

First class original stories of from three to four thous-

First class original stories of from three to four thous-and words will be purchased outright at the most liberal

The prize winners for March are:

Eliza Ballou, "The Story of Tommy Stringer," 1st Prize.

J. D. Ellsworth, "How He Carried Out His Contract," 2nd Prize.

*J. G. Kello, "In The Colorado Rockies," 3rd Prize.

Georgie Lee Bruce, "Circumstantial Evidence," 4th Prize.

'The author of this story did not send address. Prize will be forwarded upon receipt of same.

The Story of Tommy Stringer.

BY ELIZA BALLOU.

Copyright, 1893, by the Publishers of COMFORT.

saw him.

BOUT a year and a half ago,a little child was in one of the hospitals in Williamsburgh, Pennsylvania, who awakenhearts of all who

> His motherwas dead; his father had abandoned him. But that was not the had lost. sum of his

misfortune.

He was deaf. He was dumb. He was blind. His situation was

pitiful indeed. Yet this helpless child of four years

of age, had from his very helplessness, endeared himself to the hospital authori-

ties and to the nurses who had him in charge. But hospital-directors have to look to their

ailments were concerned, that the almshouse rather than the hospital was the proper place for him, and that he must be removed.

The nurses who had care of him were greatly distressed; they knew that the result of the removal would be disastrous to the child, and they begged for a little respite until some plan could be formed which should end in his being put under proper care.

So somebody interested in the hospital wrote to Mr. Anagnos, the director of the Boston School for the Blind, and the founder of the blind children's Kindergarten.

Mr. Anagnos' heart went out to this little waif, as it always goes out to one in misfortune, and he felt that the child must come to the shelter of the kindergarten.

But how could it be done?

Money was needed, for a child of this kind cannot be taught with other children, as those can who are only blind, but he must have a special teacher whose sole charge he should be. and who would have the care of him day and night.

It was done, and done through a girl of twelve. who was similarly afflicted, but who had so overcome the limitations of her physical being, that she was bright and more advanced intellectually than any child of her years who is in full possession of all her faculties.

When the letter came telling of Tommy Stringer and his sad case, Helen Kellarthought a little, then she spelled out to Mr. Anagnos: "He must come."

And this is the way she made the beginning. A short time before, a beautiful setter dog, to ed emotions of the which she was deeply attached, had died. As everything that Helen Kellar, wonderful child, which she was deeply attached, had died. As does and says is of interest to all who know about her, somebody wrote in one of the news-

papers of her loss. Only a day or two after she heard of Tommy Stringer, she received a letter from a dog fancier in New York, offering to give her a very valuable dog to take the place of the one she

When the letter was read to her, she thought a moment, then taking her writing block, such as blind people use, she wrote a reply.

I wish I could give it to you just as she wrote it, for it was so sweet and pathetic, that it would touch every heart.

She told the story of Tommy, then she thanked her unknown friend, and told him if he really wanted to make her happy, he would send her the value of the dog in money, and Tommy Stringer should come to the Kinder-

The letter accomplished its mission. The man not only sent her the money, but he funds, and, although it did seem as though this showed her message to his friends and they baby could not be a great financial burden, it sent more. Then he had the letter printed, was decided that as he was well, so far as bodily just as it was in her own square writing, and

appended a little request of his own at the end. Money came pouring into Helen's hands, until there was enough to take care of Tommy for a year, and he was sent for.

They brought him to Boston, that child of four years old, a bright, pretty boy with golden hair and beautiful blue eyes that did not look as though they were darkened forever, dressed as a baby. He literally knew nothing except to love those who were kind to him.

It was like taking a young animal and trying to make a human being out of it. But Tommy was bright and intelligent, and had a soul, and it was not long before he began to have an idea of what the teacher was trying to do. Her first task was to teach him correct personal habits, then how to feed himself, and then he was put into his boy's clothes, the same that he has on in the little picture, for this was taken when he had been only a few weeks at the Kindergarten.

Then he was taught the difference between right and wrong, and it was most wonderful to see the moral sense arouse and develop.

But one year's work would make only a beginning, and Helen Kellar set about raising more money for her young protege, to whom she was tenderly attached.

Will it seem like a fable or a miracle, when I tell you that, at the visitor's reception at the Kindergarten, in April last, I heard this child speak in behalf of Tommy. It was like the pleading of an angel. As she stood with her beautiful face suffused with emotion, her hand clasping that of her dear friend, Rev. Edward Everett Hale, she was like one inspired. Men and women sat with the tears rolling down their faces, and sobs were heard all over the

Helen had been to the Horace Mann school and had learned to articulate. She did not speak quite plainly, but with a little interpretation from Dr. Hale, the people understood it.

And they responded. How could they help it?

Then a lady who has a beautiful house on the water side of Beacon Street offered her parlors for Helen to give a tea. The tickets were a dollar. Some young ladies sold flowers and candy,

lar. Some young ladies sold flowers and candy, and the beautiful rooms were crowded. Bishop Brooks, who was a devoted friend of Helen, was present, and so was Dr. Oliver Wendall Holmes and Dr. Hale.

Two days after the tea, Helen had the pleasure of sending a check for \$1,325.00 to Mr. Francis Jackson, the treasurer of the Kindergarten, to put away for Tommy.

And so the future of this child is assured.

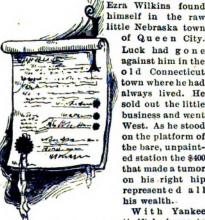
In the meantime he is growing a splendid sturdy fellow, and is making great progress. He can spell many words by the hand, can use a needle beautifully, and is learning to articulate.

Could any one with all the faculties alive and alert, have done more for another than sweet deaf, dumb and blind Helen Kellar has done for deaf, dumb and blind Tommy Stringer?

How He Carried Out His Contract.

BY J. D. ELLSWORTH. Copyright, 1893, by the Publishers of COMFORT.

() N the spring of '85 Ezra Wilkins found



"look for a job." The largest store in town

little Nebraska town of Queen City. Luck had gone against him in the old Connecticut town where he had always lived. He sold out the little business and went West. As he stood on the platform of the bare, unpainted station the \$400 that made a tumor on his right hip

> his wealth. With Yankee thrift he began to

bore the sign "William Peterson." The proprictor sold everything, from horse-rakes to caramels, and was rich. He was as mean as he was rich, and always drove a sharp bargain and got the best end of it. If Wilkins had studied his face a little, the greedy half closed eyes and thin mouth would have told their own story. and he would have been more careful in his dealings. Peterson had no work for Wilkins; but he told him that there was plenty of work in the town for a good teamster. If he had a team he could make a good living.

Wilkins went out and invested \$300 in two good horses and a heavy dray. Then he went again to Peterson. They made a bargain for the teaming of the store. It looked like a good bargain for Wilkins. He was to have nine cents for every parcel, package or object which he hauled for Peterson. A written agreement was drawn up and signed by each man, the contract to last one year.

For a time the new teamster hauled the groceries, every package counting for nine cents; but the proprietor took care to sandwich a barrel of flour in between two cakes of soap, so that Wilkins dearly earned every cent he received at the end of the month.

Then Peterson suddenly sold the store and went into the manufacture of agricultural implements. He still held Wilkins to the terms

plements. He still held Wilkins to the terms of the agreement, and things looked dark for the teamster. He could carry only one binder and reaper at a time, and 90 cents a day was about all he could earn. But he kept on in his quiet way, and said nothing.

At the end of six months Peterson decided to build a house, and also decided to build it of brick. Three hundred thousand bricks were dumped one day in the freight yard, and Wilkins was ordered to haul them to the site of the new house. He went at it as quietly as he had hauled reapers and binders at nine cents apiece; but the people in the town remarked that the "Yankee seemed to be right good natured about something. Seemed like, he must 'a' had a streak o' good luck." And Wilkins whistled a good deal as he drove his big team.

By the end of the month Wilkins had hauled

By the end of the month Wilkins had hauled all of the bricks and done a good deal of mis-cellaneous teaming beside. Then he went one evening to Peterson's house to collect his

money.
"How much is it this time, Ezra?" asked the

money.

"How much is it this time, Ezra?" asked the manufacturer, pleasantly.

"Wal, I got it reckoned up pretty careful, I guess," replied the teamster. "There was 40 mowin' machines at nine cents—that's \$3.60; an' 305,000 bricks at the same figger—that's \$2.7000, an'—"

"You will have your little joke, Ezra," laughed the manufacturer.

"Joke?" said Ezra. "Wal, I guess this aint no joke—no more'n t'was a joke to haul reapers at nine cents each. This is business, this is. Got it all in writin', you know, Mr. Peterson."

When Peterson found that the Yankee was really in earnest, and that he had a contract that would hold good in any court, he at first began to bluster and then to beg. Wilkins kept him for a long time on the anxious seat, and finally compromised with him for \$10,000. Peterson gave him his check. He felt like giving him the house too, but brick by brick, one at a time.

The sign that now hangs over the grocery and

The sign that now hangs over the grocery and general store once owned by Peterson now bears the name "Ezra Wilkins, Groceries and General Supplies," and they say that the new owner is sure to be the next mayor.

IN THE COLORADO ROCKIES.

By J. G. KELLO.

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WAS engaged in mining in the mountains of Colorado at an elevation of 9,000 feet above sea-level. There were five of us living in a

rude cabin on a broad level plateau and among the grandest sce n e r y in the Rock y mountains. There were

only a few settlers then

in Colorado, and the country was full of all sorts of

game. One of our mines was situated about six miles up the mountains from the home cabin; and one bright day in March I walked up to it to do some necessary work. I finished just at dark and started back.

2

It was a glorious night. The vanished sun had left a flush of gold and scarlet in the western sky and reflected on the snowy mountains made a light that was indescribably weird and awesome. The petty details of the landscape were obscured and toned down while the masses of mountain, plain and for-est came out in infinite grandeur. The air was singularly soft and warm and the snow had melted enough during the day so that one's footsteps made no sound. It was intensely still. Only the stream that ran down the mountain half a mile away broke the silence with a soft sighing that was in accord with the peace and loveliness of the night.

that ran down the mountain half a mile away broke the silence with a soft sighing that was in accord with the peace and loveliness of the night.

It seemed to me as if these wild solitudes were the glad places of the earth and that only in the haunts of men were cruelty and wrong. But I was suddenly startled by a loud breathing directly behind me. Looking hastily back I was horrified to see not ten feet away a monstrous wolf, with bristling hair, and incree eyes, glowing like fire out of their cavernous depths. Such a grisly monster I never saw before or since. He was turned sideways towards me and glared now at me and then at something in the shadow of a wood to the left of the road.

Looking in that direction I saw a mountain lion coming out of the shadow, lashing his tail and swaying his body in an indescribably wicked way. He was a magnificent specimen and was of a dark tawny hue with great black stripes. I had scarcely got a good view of him when I discovered two more lions advancing from a little farther up. I hastily turned to move down the road when to my extreme horror and dismay two more lions stood in the road not a dozen yards away. All this time the wolf seemed in a perfect ecstacy of ternor and rage, he uttered low growls, and gnashed his teeth, showing the blood-red lips in a fearful manner. For an instant I was rooted to the spot, the wolf kept edging closer to me, but seemed to direct all his rage at the lions who were advancing slowly, but with a ferocious determination. I had no weapon of any kind, not even a pocket-knife, and not a stick or stone within reach. Just back of me was a hut built of pine boughs and thatched with the long mountain grass. We had used it when hauling ore from the mine and also had camped there when cutting timber. It had a large rough stone fireplace and I remembered that I had left it full of pine knots and dry grass. I backed off towards this hut, waving my hat to keep off the wolf. I saw one of the lions below in the road pawing the ground and arching his back as

ther like screams, and with the deep grows of the wolf making a noise that might appall the stoutest heart.

For a moment they hesitated, then with a shrill cry the black lion sprang upon the wolf, who dashed into the hut, frightened and furious. I caught up a large branch that flared to the roof and thrust it with all my might in his face. He sprang over the lion into the road. I dashed the burning stick into the open mouth of the lion, and with a shrill scream. He bounded back across the road, the other lions with him. Here they stopped and howled and gnashed their teeth as if frantic with rage. I expected to see the wolf escape into the brush, but instead he turned and howled louder than the others. In a minute I saw that they were going to make a united charge on the hut, concentrating their whole rage on me. They unred slowly but deliberately back, and came with bristling hair, glaring eyes, and snapping jaws. I saw that the roof of my hut was affice and I knew that in a moment more the whole thing would be down on my head. I was appalled, was there no escape? Sudenly I noticed a hole big enough for a man to get through in one side of the hut, and just as with a pile of blazing branches in their faces and sprang headforemost through the hole. And just in time, for the big lion dropped within six inches of where I had stood, then the whole structure came down in a mass of flames. I fell, partly stunned, into a drift of snow. But no words can describe the pandemonium that ensued.

There were shrill unearthly screams, yells and growls and the fire was flying in every direction. It

snow. But no words can describe the pandemonium that ensued.

There were shrill unearthly screams, yells and growls and the fire was flying in every direction. It seemed as if for a moment they were tearing each other to pieces, but only for an instant; for dashing the glowing boards to right and left the whole pack stampeded into the thick brush and I could hear them crashing through it for half a mile. I did not wait to listen but as soon as I could extricate myself from my drift of snow and a brush pile I hastened home, and only after I got there did I become aware of a hole as big as my hat burnt through my coat, vest and shirt and into my back. My hands also were severely burned, but I had not felt it in the intense excitement. An old hunter told me, that it was lucky for me that I did not have a gun, for if I had shot one of them the rest would have torn me to pieces. Fire was about the only thing that would cow them when ravenous with hunger as they evidently were to attack as they did.

However, after that experience I always carried a weapon, and I realized that the solitudes are as full of cruelty as the world of men.

CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE

BY GEORGIE LEE BRUCE.

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ENTIRE country was shocked a few months ago by the news, flashed over the telegraph wires in every direction, of the brutal murder in mid-day of a man and his wife, worthy citizens of the city of Fall River, Massachusetts. The house

in which the crime was committed was in a frequented street, and there were neighbors on every side.

As far as known Mr. and Mrs. Borden had no enemies, nothing was taken from the house nor from the persons of the victims, so robbery could not have been the motive. No one was seen to enter or leave the house, and no outcry was heard. Besides the murdered man and woman there were two other persons in the house, or on the premises at the time the crime was committed. One was the daughter of the house, the other the servant.

Clearly somebody must be concerned, and as the daughter, a young woman who had always stood well in the community, was an earnest worker in the church and in white ribbon circles, was charitable and kindly to the poor, and had no taint of scandal

over her name. She is at present waiting trial, held by a chain of circumstantial evidence so slight, that her trial has been postponed until more might be obtained. Those who know her best do not believe her

guilty, yet if she fails to prove her innocence she must answer to the law, even though she did not commit the crime.

This is by no means an isolated case. Many others might be cited, but only one will be presented, which will serve to show how careful those persons should be who have a man's life in their hands, lest they commit a terrible wrong, and punish the innocent for the guilty.

will serve to show how careful those persons should be who have a man's life in their hands, lest they commit a terrible wrong, and punish the innocent for the guilty.

More than fifty years ago, the inhabitants of Alexandria, La., were thrown into a state of intense excitement by a mysterious murder, which took place in that town. Charles Benson, a promising young lawyer, was found murdered, at the foot of a stair-case, leading from the street to a carpenter's shop, owned and occupied by two brothers. Sam and Jack Lane. There was evidence of a struggle, yet strange to say the watch, ring, and pocketbook belonging to the dead man, were found upon the body.

The news spread like wildfire; great was the surprise of the community when the Lane brothers were accused of the crime. Proof conclusive of their guilt was found in the bloody tracks that marked each step of the stairway—the tracks of a bare foot traced in blood. The assertion that they were the guilty parties recalled the memory of a slight feeling of dislike entertained towards the murdered man, by Sam and Jack Lane, arising out of a trifling law-suit in which they were interested. Charles Benson had been counsel for the plaintiff, and the case was decided in his fayor. The excitement in the little town was intense. But one desire actuated the people—to punish the murderers. The shop was surrounded by excited people, thorough search was made and both brothers, protesting their innocence, were lodged in jail, to await their trial, on the charge of wilful murder. Public feeling was strong against them, and the people had but little sympathy in the struggle of the two young men seeking to prove themselves guiltless. The trial lasted for many days; the best counsel that could be obtained was employed for both sides. It was proved that the brothers often worked after nightfall, and were seen to enter the shop on this particular night. Being allowed to speak, Sam Lane testified that on the night in question, Jack cut his own foot with a sharp tool, and had been

Smokers and Their Pipes.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

Weitten for Comfort.

PIPE smoking in this country originated with the Indians, who have left behind them traces of rudely carved stone pipes, which have been discovered buried in the various Indian mounds throughout the country. These pipes were of odd shapes, resembling animals and birds. The pipes of the present day are of the most wonderful variety, probably the best known forms being the clay, brier-wood and meerschaum. The first two are products of Engliand, largely, while the third is found in the Mediterranean countries. The clay pipe is made by first rolling the soft clay with a wire inserted in the centre; on the end of this stem is placed a solid piece of clay; then the pipe is kiln-dried, the wire withdrawn and the bowl cut out by machinery. The brier-wood pipe is made from the roots of the brier bush. Meerschaum, meaning seafoam, is made from the chalk-like clay found on the shores of Spain and other Mediterranean countries. Utmost care and delicacy have to be used in the handling of meerschaum, owing to its soft and brittle qualities. It is capable of fine coloring, owing to its great porosity; the delicate brown shades and tints can be brought out more distinctly by putting the pipe in bolling wax.

The Germans are great smokers, and their favorite pipe is a long weischel wood stem with a handpainted porcelain bowl; the mouthpiece is of horn or rubber and connected with the stem by a flexible tubing. In German families of importance, pipes are often handed down from father to son as heirlooms, and are regarded as precious possessions.

The most elaborate pipes are those of the Turks. The "Hookah" is a pipe of such importance in the courts of princes, that a special officer is appointed to take care of it, and present the mouth-piece to his master for smoking. It consists of an elaborate vessel for holding water, with the courts of princes, that a special officer is appointed to take care of it, and present the mouth-piece to his master for smoking. It consists of an elaborate vessel for holding w

Amber is a favorite material for the mouth-pieces of pipes. This is a pale yellowsubstance found in greatest abundance on the shores of the Baltic, where it is cast up by the sea. It is the hardened resin of an extinct species of pipe tree.

resin of an extinct species of pine tree.

The opium pipe of China consists of a long bemboo stem with a flat, capsular shaped wooden bowl. The opium is rolled into pills the size of a pea, and one of those placed in the bowl; it is then ignited in the flame of a small lamp and the smoke exhaled from the smoker's nose. Nothing is so destructive to bodily health or to mental power as excessive opium smoking.

Nicotine is tobacco's most active principle; colorless in its natural state, on exposure to the air it



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month we shall publish the promised Prize Offer to "Busy Bees." Cash Prizes, amounting to One Hundred Dollars, will be given for the best designs in knitting, crocheting, embroidery, and other fancy work.

As this competition will be open only to regular subscribers to Comport every woman, young and old, should at once send 25 cents for a yearly subscription, and thus become qualified to enter the ranks of prize winners and at the same time secure, for a whole year, the most helpful and entertaining publication on earth.

KNITTING AND CROCHETTING



NE of the most fascinating employments in the world is It is so restful and quieting. One can think out the hardest problems which face her, turn back in me mory to a pleasant past, or look forward in anticipation to a happy future, all to the click of the slipping of the thread through the fingers.

I take knitting for a nerve medicine. It is much pleasanter than valerian, and stuff of that kind, and does such as every woman gets occasionally.

The pretty bits of silk, or of fine woollen, that usually find their way to the rag bag, may be utilized by the busy knitter, and with very good results.

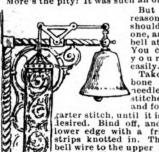
results.

Out the pieces into lengths about a quarter of an inch wide, and sew them together as you would woollen pieces if you were going to braid a rug, or make a rag carpet.

Never mind assorting colors, put them to-gether helter-skelter, to get a variegated effect. Roll the silk thus prepared into balls, and put aside until you have a sufficient quantity for the work you have in hand.

One of the pretty room decorations you may make of these knitted silk strips, is a bell-pull. In these days of electric bells which ring by pressing the button, the old-fashioned bell-pull has been done away with.

More's the pity! It was such an ornament.



But there is no reason why you should not have one, and have the bell attached, too. You can make it yourself very easily.

rake two large bone or wooden needles; cast on 20 stitches, knit back and forth in plain

and forth in plain garter stitch, until it is the length lesired. Bind off, and finish the lower edge with a fringe of silk strips knotted in. Then fasten a bell wire to the upper part and attach a bell to it. The bell-pull, when finished, should reach from the top of the room, to about three feet from the floor. So you see, the learth is determined by the the length is determined by the height of the room.

height of the room.

A very handsome portiere may be made of knitted stripes sewed together, the border being a five inch stripe of some plain color, with five inches more of the variegated silk, like the body of the portiere, below it, the whole finished with a fringe a finger in depth. These stripes are knit as wide as the needles will allow, probably about fifty stitches wide. When enough stripes are knit, they are sewed together strongly, and the seams, crossed stitched, or brier stitched with gold-colored silk or worsted. This is a very niee way of using up bits, and you really have no idea how very pretty the result is.

It is very good "catch un" work also se there

It is very good "catch up" work also, as there is no counting of stitches, and you can begin where you left off without any worry about the

There are so many things that can be made by knitting, that all we can do is to say that other suggestions will follow in later numbers of COMFORT.

Among the articles that will be given later will be silk stockings for men and women, and various fancy designs for mittens, and several pretty lace patterns.

inches long. If it is shorter, less silk will do, if larger it will take more. A No. 1 needle like that used for the passementeric, is required. The pattern is worked in rows, in the width. For the first row chain 40.

Second row, turn, and counting back do 1 double into the 5th and each succeeding stitch of the chain.

Third row, turn, chain 4, * do 4 doubles (under both veins, and between the 4th and 5th.stitches of the previous row), repeat from * between the 8th and 9th, the 12th and 13th, the 16th and 17th, the 20th and 21st, the 24th and 25th, the 28th and 29th, the 32nd and 33rd, 36th and 37th.

Fourth row, turn, chain 4, do 5 doubles into the space between each group of 4 stitches in preceeding row.

Fifth and following rows same as fourth.

When it is finished, line it with satin ribbon and put a pretty buckle or clasp on to it. Or if you prefer, fasten it with hooks and eyes, and put a bow or rosette of the ribbon on the front. Or it may be fastened with two or three strong silver pins with knotted heads, such as girls like to wear, and of which they usually posses three or four.

CROCHETTED SILK GARTER.

Any color may be used for these elastics, which are suitable for garters for hose, or to hold the sleeves of gentlement is a double set of these arm bands. On e pair in yellow or crimson, or a ny pretty dark shade for day wear, and the other of white, to wear with a dress suit in the evening.

They are very easily made.
One ball of silk, the same as that used in the belt, is sufficient for a pair. You will also want a piece of silk elastic ribbon, long enough for the two bands, ribbon enough for two bows, and a crochet needle like that used for the belt.

Begin with a foundation chain of 24 stitches,

Problemer of Cornount.

CROCHETTED ORNAMENT.

This handsome figure
ming for laddes dresses,
ming



The pretty be 1t here given is not only used for the sponge is lined with only used for a tennis bett, but for wear with any of the blouses and shirt waists that waists that waists that synce in the hand satchel, and are convenient, the but so seasons past.

Of course the length of a belt varies with the size of the person wearing it, but two balls of No. 300 of the silk named will make one 30

nouncement at the head of this article. This should bring some novel and pretty designs for this most interesting department.

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BY ELIZABETH SARGENT CURTIS

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TOLD you last month that I should talk about Macaroni this time.

This is an edible that I do not think is sufficiently well known, or rather is not in such common use as it should be.

It is not expensive, hence it cannot be classed among the luxuries; it will keep a long time, so when one lives far from the supply store it may be bought in quantity.

This method of buying is an economy, since it costs less when purchased by the box, than when only a pound package is bought.

For my own family.

For my own family, I use the spaghetti, which is a small macaroni, but larger than vermicelli.

If I bought the spaghetti by the pound, it would cost from fourteen to sixteen cents; but I buy a box which holds twenty-five pounds, for \$2.50, making it, as you will see by performing a very simple sum in division, ten saving.

The saving them to the saving the

eents a pound. Our taining and a saving.

Then there is the convenience of having it in the house. You are always ready for an emergency. Used by itself it is fine as a vegetable, and with tomato and cheese, it makes a course at dinner, or at luncheon.

tomato and cheese, it makes a course at dinner, or at luncheon.

A great many physicians order it used in place of potatoes, especially in the spring, when the potatoes are old, and, as some believe, unwholesome.

That is a question which I do not propose to raise here for discussion. But I will say, that the macaroni or spaghetti properly prepared, is much more delicate and palatable than potato, and on my own table, it often takes the place of that vegetable, particularly during the spring months, when, unless you are so fortunate as to raise them yourself, potatoes are scarce, high-priced, and not very good.

Macaroni, spaghetti and vermicelli, are thick pastes made from wheat flour and water. They are given their different shapes by being forced through holes in metallic plates. These plates are arranged sever a fire, and as the paste comes through, it is partially baked, then the long slender wheaten pipes are hung over rods to dry.

It is made in Italy, where it is a favorite food. The smallest of the wheaten pipes is scarcely more than a coarse thread, and is called vermicelli; this is used in soups and puddings.

The largest of the pipes is the macaroni, and the medium is spaghetti.

Both macaroni and spaghetti are used as vegetables.

There are two things which should be remembered

Both macaroni and spaghetti are used as vegetables.

There are two things which should be remembered in using these articles of food.

First, they should never be washed, as they will soften under the process, and the boiling water will remove anythingsthat must be taken off, during the cooking.

Second, always cook it in an abundance of boiling, salted water, until it is tender, before serving it in any way. Then drain it, and pour cold water over it, to prevent it becoming pasty. It should be kept firm to be palatable.

The simplest way of serving macaroni is to break it into three-inch pieces, using a quarter of a pound for a family of five. Put this to boil in at least two quarts of boiling, salted water. Cook until soft, which will be in twenty minutes, or half an hour, at the longest.

for a family of ave.

guarts of boiling, salted water. Cook until soft, which will be in twenty minutes, or half an hour, at the longest.

Drain it, and rinse it with clear water, but do not chill it. Put it into a hot vegetable dish, season with butter and salt, and pour over it half a cup of hot milk. Serve at once.

Another way, which many people prefer, is this. Boil and drain the macaroni as above. Put the pleees of maccaroni into a shallow earthen baking dish which has been well buttered, and cover with white sauce. Mix with the macaroni, before adding the sauce, quarter of a cup of dry cheese, grated fine. Parmesan cheese is the best, I think, but if you do not have it, any domestic cheese, except sage, will do. Mix two-thirds of a cup of fine cracker crumbs with another quarter of a cup of grated cheese, and a third of a cup of melted butter, and sprinkle over the top. Put into the oven and bake until the crumbs are brown.

If the cheese is objectionable to any one it may be emitted, but it certainly gives a most delightful flavor to the dish. Those who like the cheese flavor very much use still more with the macaroni, and then add a dash of cayenne pepper to give it zest, and aiso to prevent it from giving indigestion.

I am going now to give you a receipt that was given me by a friend who lived for many years in Florence, Italy, and who prepared the dish for me the first time I ever tasted it.

"Don't you want to come to a real Italian dinner to-morrow night," she wrote me. "Salvini is coming, and one or two other Italians, and I want two good Americans like you and your husband to keep

ing, and one or two other Italians, and I want two good Americans like you and your husband to keep me in countenance."

ing, and one or two other Italians, and I want two good Americans like you and your husband to keep me in countenance."

It is needless to say I did want to, and it was there I first tasted "Spaghetti a la Italienne."

I begged for the receipt, and ever since, this has been a frequent dish on the home table. Now I am going to give it to you.

Boil one pound of spaghetti in a deep broad-mouthed kettle of boiling, salted water. Do not break the spaghetti, but take a handful of the long sticks and plunge the ends into the rapidity boiling water; as they soften coil the spaghetti in the water by degrees, until all is in. Boil until tender, then drain and rinse. Have ready a large sized deep platter into which has been poured five spoonsful of olive oil, or melted butter, as the taste dictates. The Italians always use the oil, but as so many Americang do not like it, butter may be used although, when oil is obtainable, it is considered preferable.

With a salad spoon and fork or any wooden spoon, which is better for the purpose than metal, mix the spaghetti and oil well together, then pour over it plenty of tomato sauce, sprinkle grated cheese on the top and serve at once.

To make the tomato sauce, take a quart can of

To make the tomato sauce, take a quart can of tomatoes, or the equivalent in fresh ores, and put over to cook, adding one scant tablespoonful of granulated sugar, one teaspoonful of salt, a little pepper, and a dash of cayenne. While this is heating melt two tablespoonsful of butter in a saucepan and cook in it a tablespoonful of minced onion, tak-

ing care not to burn it. When the onion is yellow add two tablespoonsful of corn starch and cook about five minutes, stirring all the while. Then stir the mixture with the tomato, which should be bolling by this time. Cook ten minutes, stirring to blend the thickening well, and prevent scorching, then strain and pour over the spaghetti. If there are any who do not like the cheese, it may be omitted, and passed around in a separate dish for those who do like it.

This dish is often used to take the place of a soup course, or it is the principal dish for luncheon, with bread and butter, tea, coffee or chocolate, and some simple sweet after it.

As Petroleum Nasby used to say, it is both "frugal and fillin"," and I add—this is the testimony of hundreds of guests who have partaken of it—"it is delicious." Try it, some of you Comfort housekeepers, and let me know how you like it.

Spaghetti may be used as a border for boof a la mode, and thus add ornament to a dish.

Does the name beef a la mode frighten you?
Well don't let it, for I as-

Well don't let it, for I assure you it is a ver y simple a ffair, and when you have once tried it, you will repeat it, for it is delicious, inexpensive, and nutritious.

Selectapiece of beef from the under side of the round, that cheap but juicey portion, that cannot be uned for steaks, and yet that

uned for steaks, and yet that has the finest flavor of any portion of the animal.

The piece should be as nearly square as possible, and from five to eight or nine pounds, according to the size of the family.

With a damp

cording to the size of the fainily.

Wipe it well,
with a damp cloth, and tie it into shape.

Take a wide-bottomed, deep kettle, for cooking it in. Cut three slices of at salt pork into dice, and try out slowly in the kettle, crisping the pork and drawing the fat out, but not burning it. When you have the fat well extracted, skim out the pieces of pork. Have ready one small carrot, or half a large one, and one good sized onion cut into small pieces. Put them in the fat and brown them carefully; then skim them out, butdo not throw them away. Put your meat into the seasoned fat, and brown every side, to sear the surface, and keep the juices in. When each side is browned, cover the meat with boiling water, add the browned, cover the meat with boiling water, add the browned carrot and onion, also a like amount of each that has not been browned, salt to taste, add a bit of cayenne pepper, as much as you can take on the point of a penknife, and two tablespoonsful of vinegar. Set where it will simmer slowly for four or five hours. Watch to see that the water does not boll away, and replenish if it does. About half an hour before serving time, take the meat out and set it in the oven to brown. Thicken the gravy with flour, add a cup of stewed tomato, or tomato sauce; put the meat on a large platter, surround with a border of plain boiled spaghetti, and pour the gravy over the whole.

The meat may be served a second time by warming in the oven, surrounded with a border of mashed potato, and serving the gravy in another dish. Or it

der of plain boiled spaghetti, and pour the gravy over the whole.

The meat may be served a second time by warming in the oven, surrounded with a border of mashed potato, and serving the gravy in another dish. Or it may be sliced thin and warmed in the gravy, or simply warmed in slices and served with tomato sauce poured over it.

Shoulder of mutton may be stuffed and cooked in the same manner with the spaghetti border.

The work of this dish comes in the first half hour, after that there is nothing to do but watch it, until it is ready to brown in the oven and have the gravy thickened.

is ready to brown in the oven and have the gravy thickened.

As a change, you may use a can of mushrooms in place of the tomato. This makes a most delicious addition.

Now don't let beef a la mode frighten you any



place of the tomas. And based of the policy and addition.

Now don't let beef a la mode frighten you any mo. 2.

I once had a cook come to me, and after she had been with me about a month she said one day, "Mrs. Curtis, you don't know how I dreaded to come to live with you."

"Why was that," I asked, "was my reputation as a mistress so bad as that?"

"Oh! no ma'am," was her vehement rejoinder, "but I had heard of the fancy dishes you had, beef a la mode and Italian macaroni, and I dreaded it so. But I'm glad I came, for I've learned so much, and the hardest part of all these things was their name." And that is very likely to be the way.

Next month I shall have some practical house-keeping to talk about, with a suggestion for raising your own herbs for seasoning. I want to present to your attention a very simple house-keeping device, that is one of the most convenient articles I know of. It is a tin boiler made to fit into the tea kettle, to use, like a double boiler, in making sauces of any kind, soft custards, boiling milk, or cooking grains. It is on the principle of the double boiler, but its great convenience lies in the fact that it may be used in the tea kettle, and takes up no extra room. It is appliances of this kind that help make housekeeping easy.

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A SALEM WITCH.

BY HELEN M. WINSLOW.

Coryright, 1893, by the Publishers of COMFORT.

HE men all called her the Salem Witch. By all odds, the handsomest girl at Bar Har-bor last summer was Dorothy Saltenstall. Tall, straight as an arrow; her fine dark eyes shaded by heavy black lashes and brows; the rich olive

of her complexion; beautifully moulded lips; a youthful, lissome figure; all these combined to make her a young woman to turn the head of any ordinary man. But there was an added fascination to her list of attractions in the slight element of surprise with which one looked upon her. The heavy crown of hair above her fresh young face was snow-white.

The young men went wild over her from the beginning. The old ones looked critically at her and fell to discussing the charms of her grandmother, Madame Gardiner, and saying that after all Miss Dorothy was even more lovely. While the middleaged, the married, settled, stay-at-home men like me well, we were out of the running, or we, too, should have lost our heads.

Miss Saltenstall was a wealthy heiress from Salem the old Salem where they once hung a woman as a witch, and that is why among ourselves we fell to characterizing her as the "Salem Witch." Certainly she bewitched more men and that more effectively that summer than any old woman who lived in Salem

two hundred years ago ever did.
It was not much chance that I got to talk with Miss Dorothy when the young men were around; but my opportunity came at last, one morning, when a party were going to climb Newport mountain, and Mrs. Chumley insisted that I go. Stout, middle-aged men do not climb mountains for pleasure, as a rule; but this party had been made up among the Crœsuses and the Richfellers and the Vanderwaters; and Mrs. Chumley (to basely reveal the truth) had felt so flattered when they had asked her to take the two remaining seats on the buck-board that she had accepted for both of us, without consulting her better half.



THE SALEM WITCH.

We were about halfway up the mountain when a smooth, mellow voice spoke my name.

"O, Mr. Chumley, do you mind loaning me that strap I see hanging from your side pocket? I want to fasten this wrap to my waist. It is such a nuisance otherwise."

fasten this wrap to my waist. It is such a nuisance otherwise."
I gallantly offered to carry it for her—it was none other than Dorothy Saltenstall's voice—but she refused. One of her characteristics, I had observed, was the dislike to accept from her numerous admirers those little attentions which most girls exact as their due.

I cheerfully produced the strap to my field-glasses, and soon had the pleasure of seeing it clasp firmly her waist, hugging the London wrap most tightly.

During this process the remainder of the party clambered on ahead and thus Miss Dorothy and I were left by ourselves. I found her a charming conversationalist, and evidently much at her ease; realizing, no doubt, the difference between a set of callow young fellows and a man of sense and judgment and mature—but not too mature—years.

Now, ever since we had come to Bar Harbor, I had vowed to my wife and bet with the club-men, that I would find out the secret of her prematurely gray hair.

My opportunity came when I was least prepared

would find out the secret of her prematurely gray hair.

My opportunity came when I was least prepared for it. In fact, I found her so delightfully entertaining that I had forgotten my vow, when the chance to unravel the mystery suddenly presented itself.

We were almost at the top of old Newport. We had been talking—or sh had—of the delights of sylvan life, and a simple, natural existence, when suddenly she said:

"What if we were to get lost here, Mr. Chumley? Did you ever think of it? I do not see the others ahead. Suppose we were off the path and were to stray away into the woods and circle around the mountain as I have read of others doing. I suppose we should starve."

"I suppose you would be frightened to death," I replied rather ungallantly. "As for me, I should look for the nearest streamlet and follow it down to the shore."

shore."

"Frightened to death!" she echoed, not relishing my speech. "Frightened? Well, I would like to get frightened once just to know how it seems!"

"What! Do you mean to say you don't know? Have you never been frightened?" and unconsciously my eyes rested on her hair.

She looked curiously at me an instant.

"What! Do you mean to say you don't know? Have you never been frightened?" and unconsciously my eyes rested on her hair.

She looked curiously at me an instant and then her eyes twinkled.

"O, yes, yes. Once, to be sure," she began. "Mr. Chumley, I was frightened nearly out of my senses once. O, terribly! Do you mind my telling you?"

Mind? Was I to know the secret of her whitened hair? Hitherto she had avoided the subject. No one had been able to get her to, speak of her hair. Was I to be her confidante? Well, girls do like sensible men after all, better than prattling boys.

"You know papa and I were three years in France. Go slow, so I can finish my stury before we come up with the others, please. I was studying at a convent school in the south of France; and papa was writing his 'Confessions of a Theosophist.' When I finished school, papa proposed a little trip into the Pyrenges. It was very interesting. We traveled quite by ourselves, and took the trip by easy stages. We had to put up in the queerest places, and daily met all sorts of brigandish looking men, but as papa did not seem to mind them, I did not. The accommodations were, in many places, very poor, there being in some villages no inns at all. We went quite out of the beaten path, you know. Papa would never travel like other people. Some nights we would sleep in a pengant's thatched cottage, and the next in a castle. Finally one night we were overtaken on the edge of a black forest. There was but one house in sight—an old chateau, half fallen to ruin. Papa said we must stay there. We applied for shelter, and found that it was deserted by its owner, but that it was kept as a sort of an inn.

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have caused among the Buggy and Harness Manufacturers, Dealers and Agents throughout the United States. FOUR YEARS AGO we began selling our Murray Buggies and Harness direct to the consumer, barring out all Middlemen in the shape of the Dealer and the Agent, and giving to the consumers themselves the benefits of the immense profits heretofore squeezed and coaxed out of them by that class of men. We were fully convinced that by selling at first cost to the consumer direct, and by giving them the most substantial, the newest styles and the best finished work that could be produced, we would be eminently successful.

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and from now and henceforth the war will be more bitter than ever. The support we have received from all parts of the country fully warrants us in saying that we have friends by the Hundreds of Thousands, and with their support, we will the coming season make a record that will even eclipse our past glorious success. All people except fools have enemies—we have ours; they are the Factories, Dealers, Agents and Imitators, who are sore our past glorious success. All people except fools have enemies—we have ours; they are the Factories, Dealers, Agents and Imitators, who are sore our past glorious success, and the loss of the "soft snaps" which they previously had, and they now spend their many idle hours in talking against the "Murray" Buggies and Harness. We like to have them talk, for they only advertise our work that much more—as any person easily sees, and the long our support and they would not spend so much of their valuable (?) time in "grunting "against us. To these so-called" croakers "were we not a most dangerous rival, they would not spend so much of their valuable (?) time in "grunting "against us. To these so-called" croakers "were we not a most dangerous rival, they would not spend so much of their valuable (?) time in "grunting "against us. To these so-called" croakers "we can only say, that they have our sympathy, while we have the trade. If asving "Dollars" amounts to suything whatever to you, we're we not a most dangerous rival, they have our sympathy, while we have the trade. If asving "Dollars" amounts to suything whatever to you, we're we not a most dangerous rival, they have our sympathy, while we have the trade. If asving "Dollars" amounts to suything whatever to you, we're we not a most dangerous rival, they have our sympathy, while we have the trade. If asving "Dollars" amounts to suything whatever to you, we're we not a most dangerous rival, they have our sympathy to the support and trade. Write us for the GRANDEST CATALOGUE ever published; it contains about one hundred and fifty pages o

"It was a pretty rough-looking place Several dark, foreign-looking men lounged about the door as we alighted, and I really shivered when we entered the crumbling old portals.

"Papa took some quaint old rooms on the second floor—the best in the house—and we had supper served up there. Then he fell to note-making and I felt sleepy; so I excused myself and went off to bed.

"Before I went, I had such a strange presentiment. I had not kissed papa good-night since I was a little girl; but that night I felt so oppressed with the shadow of coming danger, that I went over and kissed him, astonishing the poor dear so that he could hardly say 'good-night.' Then I went to my own room on the opposite side of our little parlor. It was a curious place. The side nearest papa seemed to be made up of sliding panels. I studied a while on it and even tried it quite thoroughly, expecting to find secret compartments and all the other architectural mysteries of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, But I found nothing and finally went to bed, nervous and trembling.

"I had not been in bed very long when I suddenly

mysteries of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. But I found nothing and finally went to bed, nervous and trembling.

"I had not been in bed very long when I suddenly became aware that those mysterious panels were moving silently and slow. Between their widening cracks I saw light which grew brighter and broader. Then, oh, horrors! such a vision!"

"Miss Saltenstall." I said, for I saw that even now the remembrance affected her most unpleasantly, "do not finish the story if it troubles you so."

"I must tell now that I have begun," she went on reklessly. "I ought not to have called up the horrible vision. But now, oh, I can live it over, here! The strange room; the moving panels; the secret room beyond; and then—then I saw a table and on it the body of a young man—a fair, boyish fellow. The hair was matted with blood. On the pale, cold face were purple clots. He had evidently been murdered. I remembered papa in the next room. I started up. No! I was secured to the bed—chained down! Then two black-looking men came in. One of them said, "We might as well bring him in here. If the girl screams we will make her the third."

"My dear girl," I began, for I saw that the recollection was almost more than she could bear, "I beg of you, do not go on."

She stood erect, tense, white, looking straight land.

ahead.
"I knew they had me in their power. But although I knew it might cost me my life, I resolved to raise the house. I tried to scream and fainted."
I thought she would faint again, she was so white. I made a move to support her. Was there no water near?

I thought she would laine again. Was there no water near?

"Wait until you are calmer," I argued.

"There is but a little more," she gasped, eager to finish the terrible picture. "When I opened my eyes again papa was rubbing my forehead. 'Well, well, you've got the real Martin nightmare, haven't you? Your mother used to have it just so. It was the heavy supper so soon before retiring."

Miss Saitenstall started up the cliff.

"And that," I gasped, hurrying after her, "that night of terrorexplains your prematurely white hair?"

"Oh, no," she said, sweetly looking down at me with her artless expression. "That was done by a hair-dresser in Paris only a year ago. And a pretty sum it cost me, too. And didn't papa rave? Come, Mr. Chumley, I see the others just over that boulder. And here we are at the top. But, really, Mr. Chumley, do you think I am the sort of girl that could be frightened to death?"

And then Mrs. Chumley descended upon us.

ODDITIES.

A girl recently ${\rm died}$ in Chicago who weighed within a few ounces of 600 ${\rm lbs.}$

a few ounces of 600 lbs.

The largest brewery in the world, located in Milwaukee, has a total capacity of 2,000,000 barrels a year.

In several of the large cities base-bell and similar games were played under cover during the winter, and at night by electric light.

Captains of ships are commonly supposed to be able to lawfully marry couples, but the ceremony so performed is of very doubtful legality.

Oriente, sworks and dayges are frequently poisoned

performed is of very doubtful legality.

Orienta, swords and daggers are frequently poisoned by steeping them in decayed human blood—one of the most deadly poisons known to science.

Last fall a middle-aged man, found dead in Connecticut, was only identified by a large number of small scars upon his legs, caused by the most peculiar custom of sticking pins into them to keep his stockings up. ings up.

ings up.

A German who wished to be naturalized recently, in New York State, gave his name as James Fielding, baker. The clerk put him down as James Fielding Baker, and he will be obliged to go to court in order to get his real name back.

Every veteran who lost a limb in the war, gets a new one, or the money value thereof, every three years. There are only two men upon the list who lost both arms and both legs and lived for any length of time.

The shortest burial service on record was performed in France recently. The deputy mayor of a town in that country stepped to the side of the coffin, uncovered his head and said: "Citizen Mori, in the name of the law, we bury you."

name of the law, we bury you."

The reason for the superiority of wire nails over cut nails is a mystery to many. Why should these smooth round nails hold more firmly than the rough, sharp cornered ones so universally used formerly. The wire nail forces the fibre to one side, while the steel nail breaks it, and the wire nail is firmly gripped by the material all along its length, while the cut nail is somewhat tapering, and as soon as it is started becomes looser and looser, like a wedge.

becomes looser and looser, like a wedge.

Two New York men went to New Haven and hired a store which had been recently occupied by a dime museum. At 8 o'clock in the evening one of the men came out on the sidewalk and did the shouting, proclaiming all sorts of curiosities on exhibition within, while the other took the admission fees. When about three hundred people had collected they commenced to clamor for the performance to begin. Just as a policeman entered to ascertain the cause of the disturbance, the two fakirs made their escape through the rear window, while the deluded pleasure seekers howled for revenge.

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is just what everyone wants. It has proved the earliest and best by the side of every variety. It bears abundantly of large bright red tomatoes, very smooth, of excellent quality, extremely solid all through, with only a few seeds and free from rot. My plants set in garden last of May produced full size ripe tomators, July 2nd, and was pronounced perfect wonder by all who saw them growing After you once test them you lig own on others for they grow so rapidly. Seed was sown in hot bed in Ap. I want a BIG record for this tomato in 1833, and will pay \$500 in each Ap. I want a BIG record for this tomato in 1833, and will pay \$500 in each Ap. I want a BIG record for this tomato in 1833, and will pay \$500 in each Ap. I want a BIG record for this tomato in 1835, and will pay \$500 in each Ap. Even growing a ripe tomato in 75days from the Least number of days from at y seed is sown, al25 for next and \$55 for next. BEW ARE OF MITATIONS for I am introducer and own all the seed. Never offered before, of the seed in 1833 and \$50 for the next heaviest. Single heads have weighed over \$60 lbs my seed in 1833 and \$50 for the next heaviest. Single heads have weighed over \$60 lbs.

GIANT SILVER QUEEN ONION is the largest and handsomest ever golden to the largest and handsomest ever golden. They are of mild and delicate favor, grow rapidly, ripen early, fless 100 for the heavlest conion grown from my seed in 1893, and 500 for next heaviest a sensation everywhere. They are the largest and

GIANT SILVER QUEEN ONION is the largest sworn testimony, have weighed over 6 lbs. They are of mild and delicate haver, grow ray white and handsome. I will pay 8 100 for the heaviest onlong rown from my seed in 1883, and They are the largest and ALICE PANSY has created a sensation everywhere. They are the largest and pansless of any pansy wer oat in the greatest number of cores (many neverseen before in pansless) of any pansy wer oat in the greatest number of cores (many neverseen before in pansless) of any pansy wer oat in the greatest number of the still particular of all prizes in my seed and the still particulars of all prizes in my catalogue. They this and get some beauties. Full particulars of all prizes in my catalogue. Wy GATALOGUE offered persons sending me the largest number of customers by July 1st, \$800 for the largest club rders. \$100 for the largest farmer sorder; and everyone will be paid July 1st. Mrs. T. B. Young, Rock City, Ill., sent largest under of customers by July 1st, \$800 for the largest farmer sorder; and everyone will be paid July 1st. Mrs. T. B. Young, Rock City, Ill., sent largest under of ustomers by July 1st, \$800 for the largest farmer sorder; and everyone will be paid July 1st. Mrs. T. B. Young, Rock City, Ill., sent largest club order in 1882 and I paid her \$500. Her photograph is in catalogue. Don't buy a seed until you see it. Prices low. \$1 customers get 50 cents extra of their selection ETH EIE.

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BY SALLIE JOY WHITE.

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HOPE n o n e of you will be misled by the rumors which are going about regarding the return of the hoop-skirt.

Just now both dressmakers and the papers that are devoted exclusively to fashion, are having a

ion, are having a warm dispute, while "it is," and "it isn't," are bandled back and

bandied back and forth, very much in the style of those queer little insects which make the Autumn winds fairly shrill with their cries of "Katydid" and "Katydidn't."

In the meantime the women, not only in America but in England and France, are waiting the result with apprehension, not to say terror, and the men are in a state of amusement over the affair.

All this seems to me very absurd.

All this seems to me very absurd.

If the women, instead of being afraid they had got to come back to this hideous fashlon, would simply say that they wouldn't, that would end the matter at

But this solution of the vexed question does not seem to have entered the minds of any but the few.

Worth, who is considered the high authority, declares that the fashion will not return, and, moreover, that the agitation did not start in Paris, but in London, and that more is heard of it in England than in France.

He pays a high compliment to the American women, when he says that he does not think they can be induced to receive this fashion again, and I cer-tainly hope that they merit his good opinion of their

Still, one thing is true.

Skirts this Spring are very much wider than they havebeen before in a long time, measuring about the foot from four and a half, to five and sides are gored, and so cut that they flare out in the botto m away from the feet. This flaring effect is given by crinoline cloth the stiff est kind, which is placed nearly half the depth of the skirt. This holds it out in the favorite bell shape, and makes a good basis for the trimming. The back of the skirt is very full, and composed of straight to the skirt is very full, and composed of straight to but the favorite bell shape, and makes a good basis for the trimming. The back of the skirt is very full, and composed of straight the foot but run in French gathers. That is, every other estito is long,

stitch is long, and its alternate stitch short, but the gathering must be evenly done, that is the long stitches must be of uniform length, and the short ones the same. Narrower crinoline is used in the back, for the graceful folds must not be disturbed, they must only be held away from the feet.

The trimmings may vary, and it is said that little flounces, and deep trimmings to the knee are among the features of the not far remote future.

But in the meantime, all the dresses that are being made at the most fashionable and exclusive houses, for Spring, have only narrow trimmings on the bottom. These may take the form of a narrow ruftle bordered by a puff, a narrow band of velvet with a piping of silk at the top, or one or two rows of gallon, the number depending on the width. Ribbon velvet may be used in the same way, and on the pretty challis and India silks of the later season, satingibbon will find a place.

As to length of skirts, all dresses that are intended for wear out-of-doors, whether for street, or, later, for lawn and garden parties, are made short, that is, they are distinctly short, and clear the ground well at every step.

Dresses of ceremony only are made with a train or ven a demi-train.

Dresses of ceremony only are made with a train or seven a demi-train.

There h s been so many exhibitions this winter of pretty gowns ruined by dragging through the filth of the streets that women themselves have become disgusted, and have cut off the bedraggled cloth on the bottom of their skirts.

All through this turbulent struggle of train or no train on the out-of-door gowns, the well-bred women of every community have arrayed themselves on the negative side.

During the two years in which the contest has been going on, I have never seen one representative of the genuine old families of the city, those who represent, not money alone, but intellect and high breeding, in the street with a gown that dragged on the pavement. I have seen almost every other woman in them, but they wore them with a difference. The careful, refined woman had hers raised by some contrivance so that it did not drag, while other women, bound to show that they "threw what was what," just the skirts trail along behind them through all the interest.



More than one man has been heard to comment on this, and to wonder what the state of the under-clothing must be.

be.
There is one thing I wish I might do in this little corner of ours, ner of our and that is, t women an girls of th large Com
FORT famil understan that finess a that filmess as much as fash-ion, is an im-portant factor in good dress-ing.

To have a

To have a certain material bec a u se your neighbor has it, m ay prove the worst possible reason for having it. It may be suitable for her; it may be anything but suitable for you.

For instance

may be any thing but suitable for you.

For instance, Mrs.A. or Miss. Z. buys a gown with a rough cheviot, or a homespun, or one of the bourette insished stuffs. She is tall and alender, and it is becoming and suitable. Mrs. B. or Miss Y. admires it for its beauty and goes and buys its counterpart. This woman is short and stout. She should wear only smooth faced stuffs, cashmeres, Henriettas, India twills. The rough goods adds to her apparent size, and the stuffs, and dress, not as some one clse does, but buy your materials with a view to their fitness and becomingness, and have them made to suit your own figure and style.

Another thing; do not jump at every announcement of a change in fashion, in your desire to be the first to have it. Wait a bit and see if the announcement of the thing; do not jump at every announcement of a change in fashion, in your desire to be the first to have it. Wait a bit and see if the announcement of the thing; do not jump at every announcement of a change in fashion, in your desire to be the first to have it. Wait a bit and see if the announcement of the thing; do not jump at every announcement of a change in fashion, in your desire to be the first to have it. Wait a bit and see if the announcement of a change in fashion, in your desire to be the first to have it. Wait a bit and see if the announcement of the thing is the less likely it is to be adopted, and the few women, who in their eagerness to be stylish have taken it up, very soon find that they have succeeded only in becoming ridiculous.

The sleeves continue large; indeed, they grow larger, only, instead of standing up from the shoulders. It is made by having deep revers on the waitst hat fall back over the shoulders in a deep joint, in shape recalling the shoulders. It is made by having deep revers on the waitst hat fall back over the shoulders in a deep joint, in shape recalling the shoulders in a deep joint, in shape recalling the shoulders in a deep joint, in shape recalling the shape in the shoulders in a deep joint,

it.

Individuality in dress is something to be desired. You do not want your clothes to be a reflection of the wardrobes of the women all about you. Neither do you want to affect oddity in dress.

affect oddity in dress.
The simple thing—it is no secret—is to choose becoming things, that are good, and will wear well, and not tire the eye,



and have them made by the rules of fashion, adapted to suit your own face and figure.

Next month I shall tell you something about the millinery of the coming Summer.

For wear in the hot Summer weather there are the daintiest India silks and French cloths, the designs of both being exactly similar, as well as the color. Of these the challis are the most durable and the least expensive. The prices by the yard are about the same, but the challis are quite a bit wider, so that a less number of yards is required.

Old-fashioned dotted muslims and printed organdies are again to be worn this Summer, and I shall, in a month or two, tell you something about them.

The ginghams and satines will be made in very similar fashions to the wool dress. Quite full skirts, with little ruffs of the same on the bottom, belted waists with velvet girdles and collars, and deep berthas of cream guipure lace, full sleeves with velvet bands on the cuffs. The velvet may be omitted and a plain ribbon belt or a Florence silk crochetted belt like the one described in the "Busy Bee" department, worn in place of the girdle.

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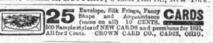
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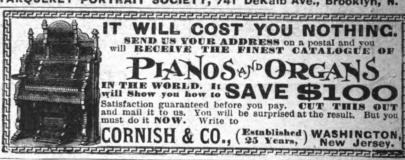


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HAPPY HOME HINTS.

BY MRS. S. J. BUCKLIN.

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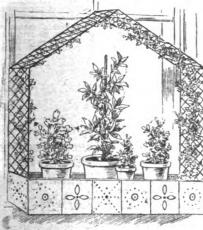


NOVEL, durable vase for a lawn, may be made from common pebbles. Those from the seashore will produce the best effect, but stones from a gravel pit will answer the purpose. I got my idea from the brilliant colors of wet pebbles. I wanted a plant vase for my idea from the brilliant of the pebbles, red, yellow, green, white, a quantity of dark ones, and all that were curiously marked, or attractive. Some were very small, ot he rs were of dark ones, and all that were curiously marked, or attractive. Some were very small, ot he rs were of a tractive. Some were very small pieces with a hammer. I used a box nearly square in shape because I could find nothing better. Four curved roof-brackets such as are used for supporting the eaves of buildings, were firmly screwed on for legs, braced with a crosspiece. The foundation was made strong, for it must bear a heavy weight, and must endure rough weather if left out over winter. A zinc lining, made by a stinman, exactly fitted the inside of the box. I twas easily tacked into place after punching holes in the upper edge.

The brackets were painted Venetian red into several pounds of putty, precisely as flour is worked into dough. The outside of the box I covered with putty and inserted the stones. Dark ones were used for a background, a design was formed with those that were colored and the smallest pebbles were placed in the empty spaces. Broken stones adhere better than smooth pebbles. I gave the whole a coat of varnish and my vase stood complete.

If I had first varnished or shellaced the stones, the cesult would have been better, for they absorbed he oil from the putty, and lost the colors and the hadings that made them so beautiful.

A layer of stones was placed in the bottom of the lox for drainage. The vase was filled with rich arth and planted with vines, geraniums, colous, was a "thing of beauty" all summer, and when frost eame, it was placed in a corner of the parlor, where it was a delight to all beholders, until May breezes showered the grass with apple blossoms.



A UNIQUE WINDOW BOX.

Encouraged by my success, I had a carpenter make a box ten inches wide inside, seven inches high and of the right length to fit into the window casing. The box was made of unplaned boards, one inch thick, and lined with zinc. I bored holes about two inches apart and half an inch deep over the front and ends of the box to hold the putty more securely. The front was divided into sections with dark stones to represent tiles. The sections were filled with a design made with minerals and shells. Only the portion that projects into the room should be ornamented; the part next the glass may be covered with enameled cloth. The box was screwed to the window casing, and a trellis covered with coarse wire netting was placed over it to support smilax, wax plant, and German ivy.

The width of the box allowed three three-inch pots to stand in a row. Thus many varieties of plants may be grown in a limited space. A small pot forces a plant into bloom. The height of the box was unficient to put a layer of stones in the bottom and allow an inch above the top of the pots to keep water from spilling over when the plants were moistened.

The pots were filled with rich earth and freshly rooted slips. Sand was put between the pots and over their tops. The room was heated by a coal stove and the window had the morning sun. On frosty nights I slipped a paper between the glass and the plants. They blossomed freely all winter, even the German ivy which I-had never seen in bloom.

EASTER AND EASTER EGGS.

Written for COMFORT.



F all the festivals of the year, the most joyous one is surely Easter. It is the promise of Spring, the promise of Spring, the promise of Spring, the prometer of the year, the was the sestival was not commemorated. It was celebrated by the Aryan races as the "Dawn of the Year." It was known to the Magians and Persians, and was honored by them. It was kept by the Jews as the feast of the Passover. And for nearly two thousand years it has celebrated to the Christian Church the resurrection of Christ. Unlike Christmas and other holidays, it is not a fixed festival, falling always upon the same day of the year, but it is a movable feast, and is governed by the moon. It falls always upon the Sunday which is next after the first full moon which occurs on or after the 22nd of March. Some

curs on or after the 22nd of March. Some day of April, other years it does this year, on the 2nd day of April, other years it falls as late as the 19th of April.

The day has many pleasant observances, most of them gathered from the Germans, who have, as a nation, the sweetest and most delightful fashions of keeping festivals, especially those of a domestic sort. These observances have been adopted by this American, or cosmopolitan nation, to which we belong, and which takes to itself the best customs and products of all nations.

At this time the churches, after the quiet and subduedness of the Lenten Season, break out in blossom. Beautiful lilies decorate the chancel and altar, and the service is one glad song of triumph. Gifts are

And woe to the unlucky mortal who does not wear something new on that day, for if he does not, the fates will refuse him good luck all the rest of the year; such is the popular superstition.

To the children this is a happy day, with its abundance of beautifully colored eggs, for what would Easter be without these treasures. The German children were led to believe that these beautiful Easter eggs were brought by the rabbits, and one of the features of the day was the egg hunt. The parents put these eggs in the garden, into the boxwood borders or among the greens, and Easter morning the children were set hunting for them.

Such triumph as there was when they were found. This was a pretty and harmless tradition, and so completely did it take possession of the children that in after years, although they knew that it was only a legend to mislead them, they never saw Easter eggs without involuntarily thinking of the rabbit.

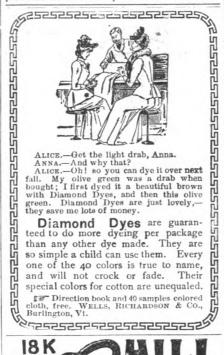
It used to be a difficult matter to color these eggs properly; either chemicals must be used, which involve expense, time and trouble, or the very simplest things were employed, with not such beautiful results. Onion peelings boiled in water, gave a pale yellow, saffron blossoms a deep yellow, and indigo a bright blue. This finished the color list of domestic dyes.

But in these days, there have been inventions, which

make the dying of the eggs the simplest possible matter, and the children of the country are indebted to two Yankee firms for this discovery. The Diamond Easter Dyes of Wells, Richardson & Co. of Burlington, Vt., put up in mall packages costing but a few cents, and containing different colors, will brilliantly dye dozens of eggs. Unique combinations of colors may be effected by excreising a little ingenuity and taste. The Perfection Dyes made by W. Cushing & Co., Foxcroft, Maine, may also be used for this purpose, with the same satisfactory results. A few seasons ago, one of Comfort's editors was in California, at Easter, and he made a glad festival for hundreds of the poor little children, who have been gathered from the docks and wharves, into the Free Kindergartens, where they are cared for by gentle, sweet-taced women, whose lives are a perpetual blessing to their little charges. He bought eggs by the case, and with a few packages of the abovenamed dyes, and with the help of the teachers, colored eggs enough so that each child had a variety. It is not easy to imagine the delight of these little folks, they had never seen anything like it before, and they will surely always associate this season with happiness brought by the kind thought of a dear friend.

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erected) and think we can make something on the
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The month to renew subscriptions to Comfort.

He who is born in March should wear the bloodstone to give him courage and strength.

Every woman young and old should not fail to avail herself of the opportunity to win a cash prize in Comfort's Busy Bee department, particulars of which appear elsewhere in this issue

With the thermometer at fifty degrees below zero in the Northwest, far below freezing in the south, and similar unusual weather all through Southern Europe, cholera germs should be well eradicated.

Since the collapse of the French Panama Canal scheme and the exposure of its fraudulent career, a movement is on foot in this country to build the Nicaragua Canal, several hundred miles north of the Panama route, which would be of greater value to the American nation. It would do away with the long and tedious journey around Cape Horn, and also with the inconvenience of crossing the Isthmus, a journey now attended with much discomfort. It would place the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of our country in quick touch, and would open the ports of the East, India, China and Japan, to direct commercial interchange with this country. It would also lessen the rates of transportation between the East and California, and stimulate state interchange between them, thus proving an economy as well as a great convenience. The present movement looks to placing the control of this canal under the American government, a most important thing to do, since England would like nothing better than to control it herself.

Although young, the year '93 already has gone into history as a most remarkable one, in America. The weather has been colder than it has been before for 100 years. Death has claimed one of the greatest statesmen the world has ever seen, one of the most famous and most helpful of clergymen, one of the most conspicuous of the remaining figures of the late civil war, an ex-president, a justice of the supreme court, and one of the most noted social leaders, Mrs. Ex-Secretary Whitney. The United States Government has been called upon to consider a grave international question, the annexation of the Sandwich Islands, and it is the Co'umbian Year of the World's Fair. During this unusual year Comport will be found ahead of the times and will increase its endeavors, and improve a hundred-fold.

The death of Mr. Blaine, while not unexpected, is nevertheless a great shock and sorrow to the people of the United States, and will be regretted throughout the world. No American of this generation, in civil life, has ensuch wide-spread reputation prople of this country Mr. Blaine has been a political idol, while in all lands his name has been familiar as that of the most prominent of Americans. His long and varied experience in public life and the eminence he had achieved, kept him constantly before the public eye, while the peculiar charm of his personality added extraordinary interest to an uncommonly attractive career. The popular mind demands a hero in political as well as in military life, and Mr. Blaine for twenty years filled that place in the hearts of the people. His prilliant course as a statesman won the love of the great party with which he was identified and which heaped upon him all its honors, while his superb diplomacy in the management of the foreign affairs of the government and his uncompromising Americanism compelled the admiration of all fair-minded men, His life contained vicissitudes and trials more than that of most men, and the fortitude and cheerfulness with which he endured political disappointment and domestic grief, drew from the world its warmest sympathy. Seldom has it been the fortune of a man to pass his last years in the possession of such universal esteem.

Mr. Blaine was born in Brownsville, Pa. January 31, 1830. After graduating with high honors at Washington College he taught school for several years. While thus occupied at Georgetown, Ky., he met the young woman who became his wife. After their marriage they removed to Augusta, Maine, where Mr. Blaine became connected with the "Kennebec Journal." He soon entered the Maine legislature, serving as the speaker of the house of representatives In 1862 he was elected to Congress and his career from that time is familiar to all readers. As speaker of the National House, as senator and secretary of state, he rendered distin-guished service, and in 1884 became the Republican candidate for the presidency, being defeated by a very narrow margin. Mr. Blaine adds another to the list of great men who have failed to achieve the height of their ambition. The presidency is the goal for which he reached, but failed to grasp. Such was the power of his personality that he suffered no diminution of his popularity. He was greater than his party, and to his death remained the first citizen of the republic.

As a friend and neighbor the people of Augusta will ever cherish his memory. Here at his home he was universally loved. His beautiful domestic life and the continual interest he displayed in the affairs of the city and the welfare of his neighbors endeared him to all.

TWENTY-ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS IN CASH PRIZES.

In order to increase Comfort's subscription list from Twelve Hundred Thousand to Two Million during 1893, we shall shortly enter into a written agreement to pay through the Granite National Bank of Augusta, Maine, Twenty-One Thousand Dollars in cash prizes to getters-up of clubs for Comfort at 25 cents per year. As this offer will be open to regular yearly subscribers only, don't fail to get your name on our books at once, so that you may secure a share of this largest and most liberal cash distribution ever made in the history of the newspaper world. COMFORT is now the best, most interesting and cheapest publication on earth. It is full of good things for every member of the household and has the largest circulation in the world.

The Story of St. Patrick.

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PESTIVA Loccurs on he 17th of this month that is celebrated by the Irish nation in honor of its patron saint, the holy Bishop Patrick. Contrary to the usual habit, the day dedicated to him is that of his death and not his birth. The story

of his death and not of his birth. The story of his life is one of the most interesting in religious history.

About the year 400, the wild Scots made a raid southward. beyond the wall which Severus built to keep them out, into Britain, and among other captives they bore away to their northern fastnesses a mere lad, said to have belonged to a fam-

to their northern fastnesses a mere lad, said to
have belonged to a family of some note.

This youth was void into slavery upon the coast of
Ireland and during his several years of captivity he
tended cattle and seems to have received from his
master, the name of Succath, but this may have been
a name by which he had been known to his kindred.
The lad was of an unusually devout and impressionable nature, but his deeply religious temperament did not prevent him from entertaining, like all
other captives, the idea of escape, and he finally succeeded in reaching an Irish seaport and returned to
his kindred among the Britons. The superstition
and barbarism he had witnessed seems to have thoroughly imbued him with the noble resolve of devoting his life to the converting and Christianizing of
the savage Irish and despite the pleadings of his
relatives not to again venture away from them, after
his past experiences, he actively and resolutely set
about preparing himself for his life-work. He entered some religious institution, the exact locality of
which is in some dispute, for this preliminary fitting
and training; but he speaks of most remarkable
visions which came to him from time to time, urging
him to persevere in his noble purpose and at about
the age of thirty he returned, as a priest, to Ireland.
His method of procedure was to first win over to the
belief of Christianity the chiefs of the various tribes
and clans, and thus gain the good-will and respectful attention of their followers.

So remarkable was his success that, during his
labors of about 45 years, practically the whole population was Christianized

One reason for the general indefiniteness of knowledge concerning him, is the fact that his Latin name,
Patricius, means patrician or "of noble family," and
was commonly added to the names of prominent
Romans in much the same manner that Esquire is
used with us, to-day.

He was made a bishop, and after his death was
canonized as a saint, by the Roman Church. During
his lifetime he is

and vice.

A wonderful and exceedingly precious relic of Saint
Patrick, consisting of one of bis teeth, enclosed in a
costly shrine, will be sent to the World's Fair, where
also will be on exhibition his missionary bell, rung
throughout Ireland during his lifetime, to summon
people to worship.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

A woman has been appointed assistant sergeant at arms in the Arkansas legislature.

A man in the New York post-office went to a fair a year ago and was persuaded by a young lady of his acquaintance to buy a ticket for a cradle, which was to be disposed of by raffle. The young bachelor was unfortunate enough to win it, but in spite of the jokes at his expense, he courageously took it home. A little while ago he married the girl who sold him the ticket.

ticket.

People who live in the country and who, following the fashion of their forefathers and mothers, "do their own work," can scarcely realize the straits city people are in, to get competent help. American girls, in particular, seem to have the greatest aversion for domestic service, preferring to work in stores or factories at even less wages, counting the sums

they must expend for board and lodging. This is the result of false pride, and also of a change in the conditions which prevailed when the "help" was a neighbor's daughter and the "hired man" was the eldest son of the girl you used to go to school with, and when everybody sat down to the same table. The modern girl wants her evenipgs free, wants to be with companions for gossip, and where she can see something of the life that is going on about her, and she wants to have definite hours of labor. So domestic service gets poorer and poorer, the wages steadily increase, and the places are filled by foreigners.

BEAUTIES OF THE TROPICS.

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HIS is not the three-ball sign of the pawnbroker which is familiar to the residents of large cities, but it is a group of green cocoanuts, as they appear hanging from the trees.

One of the first unusual sights which attracts the attention of the visitor to the tropics is the peculiar, graceful palms, bearing these nuts in such profusion.

Zouaves of the Bahama Islands, is given a representation of one species of a cocoanut tree.

These reach the height of our northern forest

representation of one species tree.

These reach the height of our natrees, and are leafless to the very top, where the foliage spreads out in long branches on which hang clusters of this mammoth nut.

Still another species is the bush like palm with long farreaching branches resembling our, hot-house palms. The nuts on these palms grow close to the trunk and their development is one of the most remarkable features of the tropical growth. Illustrations are here presented of the fruit in various stages. First, the half-opened pod, showing the small nuts in their earliest form. This pod resembles a huge ear of green corn, enveloped in its husk, and reaches a length of from three to five feet.

In the next stage, the husk or pod has fallen off, and the nuts, in larger size are seen clinging to the tough, fibrous branches, which are leafless. They now resemble greatly the acorn, except they have not its roundness, their shape being more triangular.

After further development the nuts reach the point where they are known as the jelly cocoanut, being the size of a small melon. In this for m the nut never reaches the Northern market, but is highly prized by the natives for its milk, and also for the jelly, when in a thin ing to the inge to the ingest of the left, and the nut is highly prized by the natives for its milk, and also for the jelly, when in a thin ing to the ingest of the ingest of the left, and the ingest of the left, and the ingest of the left, and the nut is the point where they are known as the jelly, when in a thin ingest the ingest of the left, and the nut is the point where they are however the nut is the nut is the point where they are known as the jelly, when in a thin ingest the ingest of the left, and the nut is the point where they are the nut also for the jelly, when in a thin ingest the left.

but is natives for the jelly, which is found in a thin layer clinging to the meat.

The milk is perfectly colorless, and clear as water. It is very sweet and utterly unlike that which is got from the over ripe co co a n u ts at the North, in which it frequently becomes rancid or sour.

There is one peculiarity which deserves to be noted. No matter how hot it may be, even if the temperature is 100 degrees or more, the milk when d rawn from the cocoanut is as cool as though it had been on ice.

When the nutripens, it has a hard, fibrous covering, and when this is removed, it shows the nut, just as it is offered for sale in the cities and towns of the North.

On one tree may be seen at the same time nuts in every stage of development, from the pod, yet unopened, to those which have ripened.

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT.

There is a growing disposition all over the country, to limit by legislation extortionate charges on articles of absolute necessity to the community, such as water, gas and coal.

The present policy of the Canadian officials in prosecuting men who favor annexation can have only one result. And history has repeatedly taught what that result will be.

A good deal of the talk about abandoned farms in the New England States has no basis in fact. In Connecticut, for instance, there are only about three hundred small farms offered for sale, and practically none that are actually "abandoned."

Skilled engineers in the United States Navy often resign to accept offers from large manufacturing concerns paying from two to five times as much as the salaries given by the government. And the last thing a first rate business man, in private life usually finds time to do, is to "hold an office."

finds time to do, is to "hold an office."

The old apprenticeship system is now almost entirely obsolete. It would seem to indicate that the American boy is in too much of a hurry to get rich, to start at the bottom of the ladder, and that he is ashamed to work in overalls. He would be an office boy or a counter-jumper of some sort or other, rather than spend four years of his youth in the old-fashioned way, learning a trade at which he may always earn his living. He would do well to remember that many of the heads of the largest American manufactories started as apprentices in the works they now own.

own.

The grade crossings of the railroads entering Chicago kill people at the rate of more than one a day. The list of those maimed for life is much larger. A curious anomaly in the laws of many States is that while a person injured by the railroad may recover practically any amount in damages, his widow and children can under no circumstances recover more than five thousand dollars in case he is killed outright. The justice of this is not readily apparent, and there is some agitation for its repeal. The present situation has given rise to the sarcastic saying that "It is cheaper for a railroad to kill a man than maim him."

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cough. We all suffer that way sometimes. How to get rid of them is the study. Listen—"I am a Ranchman and Stock Raiser. My life is rough and exposed. I meet all weathers in the Colorado mountains. I sometimes take colds. Often they are severe. I have used German Syrup five years for these. A few doses will cure them at any stage. The last one I had was stopped in 24 hours. It is infallible." James A. Lee, Jefferson, Col.

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EDITOR'S NOTE. The following rules govern the publication of all matter in this department.

publication of all matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular subscribers to Confort, and every contribution must bear the writer's own name and post office address in full.

Original letters only, ich deal with matters of general interest will be i bished. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may exceed the latter limit. Contributors must write on one side of their paper only.

Every month a number of prize monograms composed of the writer's initials, will be awarded to those sending the best contributions. These monograms, which will be most desirable ornaments for stationery, cards, etc., will be printed in connection with the respective letters, and new electrotypes of same will be mailed, post paid, to the prize winners.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

MARCH PRIZE WINNERS.

Philip McAnany, John T. Straley, Eime.
Willie Kelling.

Orville H. Stewart, John A. Thomas, Elmer Vickers.

EAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES: Loving and appreciative words for our dear COMFORT have come to me this month from all over the country. I wish here to emphasize what I already have said, that you must not feel unhappy if your letters are not printed. Every one that comes is carefully read, and is given the same consideration that is bestowed upon those which are printed. To let you see how impossible it is to use all of them, if I were to try the experiment for one month, the publishers would be obliged to issue a paper every wee, and to print nothing-not even advertisements-but the letters.

even advertisements—but the letters.

I have just a word to say about the manner of writing. Select some topic with which you are perfectly familiar, and write about it simply and naturally. Write it as you would speak it. Avoid the use of long words, it is priggish and pedantic to fill a letter with words you would not dream of using in conversation. We are past the Addisonian period of literature, and in place of redundant expression and words derived from the Roman, the best writers employ direct phrases, and words which have a Saxon origin as far as possible. If you would know just what I mean by this read Carlyle and Emerson, and the books of John Fisk on American History. I consider Mr. Fiske the best example of the use of vigorous English that the present time affords.

The practise of writing the letters will be good for you even if they do not see print the first or second or half-dozenth time. And remember that always you are welcome.

Thinking that you would be interested in a Cali-

you are welcome. And remember that always you are welcome. AUNT MINERVA.

Thinking that you would be interested in a California Indian feast, I have attempted to briefly describe one that I saw.

During the few days preceding the feast, the Indians busied themselves with cooking the good things of which they were to partake. These consisted mainly of beef, tortillas (a mixture of bread and water baked on hot rocks), a nd acorn pudding. They also made images to represent every person who had died during the good and were dressed in the best of them. An indian priest then took his place within the circle. He first read (in Spanish) a passage from a book he held. When he had finished, he chanted a song or prayer, at the same time shaking a rattle made from a gourd. He continued to dehese two things alternately for some time. During had finished his ceremonies, the Indians repaired to the place where the images were standing. Each image was grasped by a man who then commenced a kind of dance or march, grunting all the time. While these were marching such shake the such as the same time shaking a value of the squaws were crying and walling in a most piteous manner. When the priest had finished his ceremonies, the Indians repaired to the place where the images were standing. Each image was grasped by a man who then commenced a kind of dance or march, grunting all the time. While these were marching one of the other Indians tossed coins, baskets and fine calicoes into the air. When the sea articles fell to the ground, they were carried off by any who wished to take them, except relatives of the dead ones represented by the images. The he good things were brought out and passed arond, the aged getting the choicest morsels.

relatives of the dead ones represented by the images. When the men had concluded their march they placed the images in a pile and burned them.

Then the good things were brought out and passed around, the aged getting the choicest morsels.

A maiden was then "burned," as the white people expressed it. This was done by placing her in a hole that had been dug in the ground and covering her with reeds and wet cloths. A fire was then built as near her as was considered safe.

About a dozen squaws formed a circle about the girl and the fire, daneing and singing at the same time. This was continued during the rest of the day, fresh squaws relieving those that became tired. After passing through this ordeal, this maiden was no longer to be considered as a girl; she had been transformed into a woman, and could now marry as soon as she found her ideal. Those not engaged in this ceremony devoted the rest of the day to eating, playing games, gambling, dancing, etc.

Such were the means by which these Indians derived pleasure.

PHILIP MCANANY, Warner, Calif.

I think this letter will be found very interesting. The ceremonies attendant on the "coming out" of the fashionable girl, when she says good-bye to the school-room and begins her career as a society devotee, is quite as elaborate, but not so appalling. Still, when we consider the temptations that come toyong girls all about, it is not so much amiss to say that one, as well as the other, is "tried by fire."

t come to you for the first time with a talk on roads.

low is the time of year when everyone is beginning a feel the importance of good country roads. When



I say everyone, I mean those who live in the city as well as those who live in the city as well as those who live in the country. But of course those of you who live in the city can't well appreciate the importance as well as those who live in the city can't well appreciate the importance as well as those who live in the country and have to be bothered with such a nuisance to the far mer. Good roads make it possible for the farmer, and reduce to a mimimum the wear and tear on wagons and carriages. They furnish a ready communication with the outside world at all times of the year; and prevent many vexations and nervous strains to which farmers and their families are liable when contending with the bad highways which are almost a barrier to Christianity and civilization. They would be free from dust in summer and mud in the fall, winter and spring. They would be the best possible investment to the tax-payer and would do away with the supervisor system in places where it is still in use. They would make it more convenient for the farmer to go for the mail by which the long-expected Comport is brought to him. It would make it more convenient for him to carry his children to school, and his family to church or to a neighbor's. Good roads would, in fact, be the promotion of the education, morality and Christianity of a community. They would be the means of bringing more trade to the merchant, and make it more pleasant for the physician to go into the country to see his patients. They would therefore be a benefit to the health, wealth, prosperity and general welfare of a community.

ORVILLE H. STEWART, Adams, Ind.

A timely word well spoken is this from Indiana. There seems to be an interest in good roads springing up all over the country. Too little care is taken

ORVILLE H. STEWART, Adams, Ind.

A timely word well spoken is this from Indiana. There seems to be an interest in good roads springing up all over the country. Too little care is taken of the roads in most towns, the voters seeming to think that other matters are of greater importance. This is a subject which interests the whole household, women and children even more than men. All of Comport's family should work in the interest of good roads—think what an army of workers that would make! Over a million of people asking for improved highways. Don't you believe they would be a matter of course.

How many of you have heard of the proposed asphalt highway from New York to Chicago for Legar from the land of cord and and the contract of the cont



tween give and take. CHARLES E. CRATE, Camden, N. J.

Our New Jersey cousin might have added to the list which entitles his State to consideration. Within her boundaries some of the most famous battles of the Revolution were fought, and it was while crossing New Jersey with his army that Washington began the work of conquest which ended later at Yorktown in Virginia.

I wonder how many of the Comport cousins are in-terested in the Islands of the Atlantic which stretch away to the south of Florida. These are the Bahama Islands, of which the largest is New Providence, and on this island is the lovely city of Nassau, where noted American and English people pass the winter and spring months.

strokes.

Another natural wonder is the Lake of Fire, a small body of water at one end of the city, which connects with the ocean by a small canal. By day, and even by night, when its surface is undisturbed, it presents no unusual appearance. But after sundown, when the water is broken by the play of oars, or by the splash of a stone, or the leaping of a fish, it bursts suddenly into a flame of phosphorescent glow. It is supposed that this phenomenon is due to the presence in the water of minute jelly-fish.

The Bahamas are under English control, and in the square opposite the Government House, which is the

residence of the Governor, is a fine statue of Columbus.

Nassau, unlike most other tropical cities, is a marvel of cleanliness. Its hard white streets, graceful palms and stuccoed yellow walls, bathed in perpetual sunshine, make it a delight to the eye.

It boasts of a fine hotel, the Royal bloantifully located overlooking the harbor, which some years ago was managed by a brother of President-elect Cleveland, who lost his life by the sinking of a steamer bound from New York to Nassau.

PAULINE GARLAND, Nassau, New Providence, Bahamas.

PAULINE GARLAND, Nassau, New Providence, Bahamas.

This letter is a model in construction and will be read with the greatest interest. It is distinctively the kind of letter which Comfort desires, for this department, and would have received one of the monogram prizes had the writer's name been found on the list of regular subscribers. We desire again to impress upon the minds of all contributors that prizes will be awarded to regular subscribers only. Aside from this, all conditions which appear at the head of this department must be compiled with.

I am a new cousin and am much interested in the "Chats." I have not seen any letters from Wyoming, and I thought I might speak on a subject that doubless many young men in the east have been considering, and that is, Horace Greeley's advice to young with the country." That was probably good advice at the time it was given, but remember that was a good many years ago. The West of to-day is overcrowded with young men

ber that was a good many years ago. The West of to-day is overcrowded with young men and old too, for that matter. Wages are not as good here as they are in the east in proportion to the cost of 1 iv in g. While some they are in the east in proportion to the cost of 1 iv in g. While so me articles of necessity a re quite reasonable others are fearfully high in price. I have seen men that held responsible and remunerative positions in the east, working for twenty-five and thirty dollars per month. One man that for several years was superintendent of water-works in the Middle States, and for two years held the same position in a New England city, told me that he gave up his position in the East thinking he could do so much better out West, and after "going broke" to use a western phrase, he was obliged to take a pick and shovel and work for two dollars per day, and sleep on the ground rolled up in a blanket. I have many times heard young fellows say they would hate to have their friends know what they had been obliged to do to get something to eat, somethings even begging for food at the doors. Boys that have comfortable homes, or work to keep them well fed and clothed, would best defer their visit to the West until they have money to come, and return, as soon as they have seen how times and prospects are; for hundreds are in the West today, who would gladly return to the "Old Folks at Home," if they could only get the money to pay their fare and buy a decent suit of clothes to wear. Hoping this may serve to make some boy contented with his lot at home, I remain, Your western cousin, Joun A. Thomas, Cheyenne, Laramie Co., Wyoming. This word is one that is spoken none too quickly. The West is no longer the El Dorado of youthful dreams; it is harder work and rougher knocks than

Cheyenne, Laramie Co., wyoming.

This word is one that is spoken none too quickly. The West is no longer the El Dorado of youthful dreams; it is harder work and rougher knocks than boys get in the East. If this cousin only succeeds in making the uneasy young fellows of New England and the Middle States "let well enough alone," he will deserve the grateful thanks, not only of the boys themselves, but of their parents and friends.



will deserve the grateful thanks, not only of the boys themselves, but of their parents and friends.

Allow a new cousin from the central part of Texas to join you this time. I live in a town surrounded by cotton-fields. I will tell you something about cotton and how it is raised. In a week or ten days after you have planted your seed a green plant will appear. After a while, a yellow blossom will come on it which in a day or two will wilt and turn a dark pink; then a ball like that of a roseful is formed, the san bursts it open and snow-white cotton pops out. It is then ready for picking. When it is picked it is that is, cleaned of the seeds, then sold to the merchants a pound. It is then sold to the merchants a pound. It is then shipped to the factory where it is spun and woven into cloth. Some of it is then sent back here for people to buy, and may be a farmer wears a cost from his own cotton field.

John T. Stralley, Comanche, Tex.

The Texas cousin shall be welcomed to the circle. Those of us who live

The Texas cousin shall be welcomed to the circle. Those of us who live away up in the North are very glad to hear about the growing of the cotton.

on this island is the lovely city of Nassau, where not not injury months.

This island which is one of hundreds, is of coral merican and English people pass the winter and spring months.

This island, which is one of hundreds, is of coral this island, which is one of hundreds, is of coral most health resort for the people who can pull themselves away from daily newspapers and the postman, since the steamer comes only twice a month bringing news from the mainland.

Nassau has a population of about 15,000 of which three-fourths are black. During the war it was a famous resort for blockade runners, but since that time it has lapsed into the quiet of the tropics.

The chief products are pineapples, sapadillos, sisal hemp—of which thouse the pineapples, sapadillos, sisal hemp







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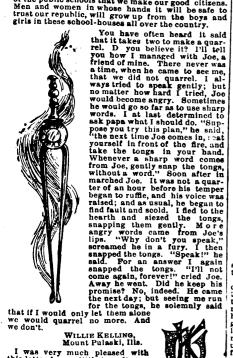
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Our county is just six years old and not very thickly settled. The jack rabbits are numerous, as well as set them prairie wolf or coyote; I see them skulking around the herd most every day. I am not afraid of them. I have a nice peny to ride and two dogs to thelp me herd, that are trained for the business. Our county is all prairie; I can see many miles off. We have good schools and nice school-houses here. I am going to school this winter; as stock lives on the range all winter, pawill hire a herder so I can go to school. Well dear COMPORT I will close my letter, and if I see it in COMPORT I will close my letter, and if I see it in COMPORT I will write again. Long may you live and prosper is the wish of ELMER VICKERS.

COMPORT I will close my letter, and if I see it in COMPORT I will write again. Long may you live and prosper is the wish of ELMER VICKERS.

COMPORT I will close my letter, and if I see it in COMPORT thanks the little Kansas herder for his good wishes and his kindly words. It is pleasant to know that there are "good schools and nice school-houses" for all the Western children. But it wouldn't be America if the schools didner flourish. When I was out through the Wost the one thing that delighted me was the fine school buildings in every town, no matter how small. It is by means of the public schools that we make our good citizens. Men and women in whose hands it will be safe to trust our republic, will grow up from the boys and girls in these school-houses all over the country.

You have often heard it said that it takes two to make a quar-



WILLIE KELLING, Mount Pulaski, Ills.

Mount Pulaski, Ills.

I was very much pleased with this letter from a little boy. It contains a good lesson for older folks as well as for children. Willie's papa must be very bright and original; he certainly showed himself ready to meet the emergency that came into his son's life. Not everybody has tongs to anap when they wish to avoid a quarrel, but after all, I suppose the main thing was to divert the mind and keep the tongue from saying bitter words. Don't you think that is a lesson we all need to learn?

Before we meet again our Easter festival will have

Before we meet again our Easter festival will have passed. May I hope that will bring happiness to you all.

AUNT MINERYA.

A Detective Outdone.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT.



iong.
As they came near the house they passed an old
an repairing a fence.
"A good day for work," called out Mr. Keane cheer-

The old man looked at him curiously and replied, "Strangers, aintye?"
"Yes," responded Mr. Keane. "Can you tell us if that's Widow Mason's house?"
"Yes, that's the widder's," replied the old fellow. "Lookin' for board?"
"No, we have friends stopping there."
"Do tell, be those two fellers friends of yourn? Wall, now! I hear they be inventors, they seem to be mighty feared somebody'll find out what 'tis they're inventin."

mighty feared somebody'll find out what 'tis they're inventin.'.

The detective's face beamed with delight as he bade the man good morning and passed on.

The widow herself opened the door. To her look of inquiry, he said: "I called to see Mr. Pike; is he in?"

"No," was the answer, "he and his friend have gone for a walk, but they will soon be in. Perhaps you would like to wait in their room?" the widow said pleasantly.

Mr Keen averaged and ween how the like they are the widow said pleasantly.

you would like to wait in their room?" the widow said pleasantly.

Mr. Keane assented, and was shown to the room. There the wide ** left them. Keane and his assistant began a vigorous search, but there was nothing to be found that would connect the inmates of this simply furnished room with counterfeit money.

The detectives seated themselves and waited for their men. Everything was very still. The only sound was the steps of a stout servant girl going about her work in the shed kitchen. The windows of the room where they waited commanded a good view of this room and they noticed the girl as she worked vigorously away at an ironing table.

An hour passed by and Mr. Keane became uneasy and called the widow. "Mr. Pike didn't leave any message, did he?" he inquired.

"Oh, no," answered the widow, "I should have thought of it before. They will probably be back soon."

"Perhans they may have left some word with your

thought of it before. They will probably be back soon."
"Perhaps they may have left some word with your servant?" suggested Mr. Keane.
The widow, accompanied by her two visitors, went down the stairs. "Did Mr. Pike or Mr. Wallace leave any word about when they would be back, Libby?" questioned Mrs. Mason.
"They left a note, mum, and I tucked it under the clock," answered the girl. "An' I've been that busy that I never thought of it," and she returned to her ironing.
The widow opened the note; it read:
"Dear Mrs. Mason:—We are suddenly called away and shall not return. Enclosed find the amount due for board. Respectfully, E. Pike."
"Why, what does It mean?" asked the widow with a bewildered air.
"It means, madam, that these men are counterfeiters. They evidently found out that we were after

y them and while we have been sitting here they have got the start of us a good two hours."

"They may be hidden about the house or barn. O sir, you must search. I shant feel easy till I'm sure they are not about the place," said Mrs. Mason.

The detectives, assisted by Libby, made a quick search of the place, but no trace of the men was found, and after assuring the widow that the men were probably a good many miles distant, Mr. Keane hurried away.

Mrs. Mason watched them out of sight, as did also her overworked maid. As the detectives passed down the road the old man at work on the fence old the start of the sight of t

OUR ORDER OF NOBILITY.

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HE United States gov.

In the continuation of the continuation of the life Saving Screen of the Life Saving Station of the Saving Station of the Saving Station of the Saving Station of the Saving Station received a left of the government can bestow upon a citizen.

At daylight, on the 20th day of January, 1892, the crew of the Coskata Life Saving Station received a lefephone message from the keeper of a lighthouse that a vessel was saground far out on the shoals, many miles off shore. They launched their frail craft, hoisted sail and started to the relief, in a tremendous gale and heavy sea, the thermometer 20 degrees below zero, well knowing that unless the gale should most to or some vessel pick them up they would be called to sever the worked vester of the Life Saving Station received a lighthouse that a vessel was finally spought to save. The wrecked vester has had been described, but the life should make the saving station of the life-save of the saving station of the life-save of the saving station of the life-savers, a Hercules of six feet, four inches in height, threatened to cut the life if they did not at come obey him, and entrust to his crew the entire task of their rescue. Amid the tremedous waves, the small boat was worked up close as possible, and with a rope tied around him, one of the sallors was commanded to jump. Then the boat was slowly maneuvered, with the greatest skill, into position says, and another man taken aboard, and so the wind the command of the the saving was the saving state of the unfortunate crew

HORTICULTURE AT CHICAGO.

We call special attention to advertisement on page 2, of Vaughan's Seed Store. Adjoining the World's Fair Grounds this firm has arranged to grow many new and rare plants in order to show them in beat possible condition in the Horticultural Building TheirNew York establishment now enables them to supply better than any other house the demands of the cutter country. Our readers who send for their magnificent book for 1893 will find it worthy of the great Columbian year.

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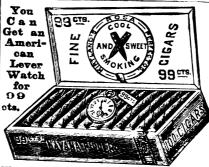
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ordering by the doses, you can have easered him and one, but cannot sell less than 4 littens boons porten.

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The Good Roads Movement.

Written for COMPORT.

AD roads represent an actual money value, taken from the people; a tax to which all have grown accustomed. This article will merely sketch the lines along which progress seems to be possible and economical. In the first place, improvements are needed in three directions. Better surface, adjustment of grades, shortening distances. In order to see what steps seem practicable, let us first consider some of the present conditions.

There is about as much money expended annually upon the roads as is expended by the post-office, but what a vast difference in the matter of satisfactory results. One is un-methodical, the other organized. The various road-masters or county commissioners, are for the most part well intentioned, without doubt, but work without reference to any general plan, render their own efforts futile by great lack of knowledge on the subject. Proper materials are not used in many cases, and in

materials are not used in many cases, and in fact, the demand for improvements is a tacit admission that the present system is, as a whole, a failure.

Now for the remedy. The most practicable scheme is to nationalize the work. There are several weighty reasons for this. The government can negotiate long loans at low rates—much lower than can the individual counties or even States. It could prosecute the work symmetrically, with due regard to surrounding counties and States. It could bring to bear the best engineering talent of the country and it would avoid petty township or individual squabbles, and immeasurably lessen the chance for "steals." It could buy and

ture, while the ten-mile stretch connecting them be brought into the best possible shape with the remainder. This adjustment is equitable from the fact that the population and travel rapidly diminish from the centres outwardly and it is neithe economical nor necessary to have a portio. of the road over which but a small amount of trav'l passes, as thoroughly built as that in constatuse by large numbers of citizens, since it is not subject to such wear.

The roads should be constructed so as to favor the drawing of loads into the centres, rather than made strictly uniform both ways, as the empty carts can well afford to accept the slight disadvantage involved by this. Competent engineers say it is generally better to expend a small road appropriation in relieving one steep nesses.

The roads should be constructed so as to favor the drawing of loads into the centres, rather than made strictly uniform both ways, as the empty carts can well afford to accept the slight is generally better to expend a small road appropriation in relieving one steep nesses.



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S an evidence of the interest which foreign powers are taking in the World's Fair, a special correspondent of Comfour has gathered the following entertaining account of an unique feature in preparation at the Bahama Islands, that fairyland of the tropical Atlantic, in the region of perpetual sunshine.

He writes that at present one of the sights in Nassau is the drill of the company of little colored Zouaves who are to go to Chicago very soon, having been organized specially for the World's Fair. There are ten of them; bright, active boys from nine to thriteen years of age. They have been in active training for months, and the work they do would be a credit to much older and more experienced soldiers. Their dress gives them a remarkably piecturesque appearance. It is modelled on that of the Algerian Zouaves of the French gives them a remarkably pic-turesque appearance. It is modelled on that of the Algerian Zouaves of the French Army. Full, baggy, red trous-ers, with yellow leggings, blue coats, or rather jackets, falling open over a blouse, and Zouave

They carry Remington rifles with bayonets, made of special size to suit them, and they keep them in as good order as the regular army soldier does big.

the regular army soldier does his.

These little warriors have of the great game of war. The roll of drum and peal of bugle float from their ranks upon the air, at morning, noon, and night, for though the forts, which swarmed with British red-coats during the civil war, when Nassau was a port of refuge for the swift blockade-running steamers, are now silent and ungarrisoned save by a mere handful of constabulary, there still remains an air of military discipline, and the infant infantrymen have had ample instruction from the Queen's trumpeters who daily sound the reveille and other calls.

To the sound of the bugle they scurry through the skirmish drill, advance, retreat, rally and charge, an army in miniature, while the rattle of drum and blare of trumpet attract and amuse visitors and enchant the native population, always fond of noise and display.

chant the native population, always fond of noise and display.

They will exhibit at Chicago under calcium lights of various colors, which will add greatly to the briliant effect of their movements.

Their drill is very entertaining, and it is marvelous to see the dexterity and precision with which the maneuvers are executed. Not only do they go through the manual, but they also give the bayonet drill, and the lightning drill, which are most dazzling performances.

They are so interested





as that in consts. t use by large numbers of citizens, since it is not subject to such wear.

The roads should be constructed so as to favor the drawing of loads into the centres, rather than made strictly uniform both ways, as the empty carts can well afford to accept the slight disadvantage involved by this. Competent engineers say it is generally better to expend a small road appropriation in relieving one steep incline, than seek to improve several lesser ones.

The expenditure, in country districts, of this sum of money, and the opportunities it will afford for employment, will cause a substantial increase in prosperity apart from economic Rains in lessening wear and tear in transportation. And though it is an immense sum of money to raise, it will all stay in the country, and edistributed among the working classes. A good road system would be the greatest aid, and the most substantial one, that the government can give to the agricultural classes—better than any wild financiering schemes for their benefit.

No altempt has been made to crowd this article with figures are i statistics, but the necessary money for this national enterprise could easily be raised, as it was needed, by any one of

the scale is marked on the glass stem, by first covering it with wax and scratching the divisions with a fine steel point; then applying hydrofluoric acid to these scratches, and when the wax is afterwards removed the marks are found etched on the glass.

The thermometer used for ordinary purposes in this country, England and Holland, is the Fahrenheit; this scale is divided into 180 degrees between the freezing and boiling points. The inventor, whose name it bears, made a mistake in assuming that 32 degrees below freezing point, or 0 degrees, represents total absence of heat.

In France and on the Continent the scale introduced by Celsius is used; this is known as the Centigrade, and is divided—between freezing and boiling points—into 100 equal parts. It is generally used for scientific purposes.

The third common form of thermometer, suggested by Reaumur, is still used in Russia and Germany, being divided into 80 parts.

Breguet's metallic thermometer is very delicate and consists of three thin ribbons of platinum, gold and silver, coiled in a spiral form; one end being connected with a needle that moves around a Centigrade scale. The expansion and contraction of these metals, by heat and cold, moves the index across the scale.

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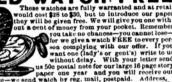
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ELL, children, this has been a windy day all over the country, the last of Febru-ary and the first of March is usually so. The snow is going. That's good, and perhaps St. Patrick's Day will be pleas-ant for those who celebrate. Let us so. hope so.

Who was St. Patrick?

Who was St. Patrick?

I have heard that he drove all the snakes out of Ireland; at all events he drove wickedness out of the Emerald Isle, for he founded 400 churches and with his own hands baptized 12,000 people. He lived in the 5th century and yet his good deeds are fresh to-day. He was, no doubt, the greatest missionary the world has yet known and it is well that his memory is kept green.

A GAME.

A GAME.



made. These drawings are all so small that

all so small that you had better cates of twice or three times the size shown.

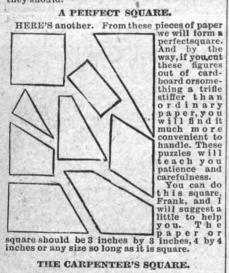
Here are five pieces of paper to arrange into a perfect hexagon, that is, a figure having six equal sides like this.

There I'll give

this.

There, I'll give you the outline and you must do the rest. An you moderate sized paper will answer, it may be as big as a pumpkin or as small as sister's hand; but your work must be very exact in cutting pieces or you must not expect them to fit as accurately as they should.

A PERFECT SQUARE.



THE CARPENTER'S SQUARE.



STILL another problem. A carpenter has a piece of wood—we will still use paper or cardboard to work out this problem—which is 10 inches long and 2 inches wide. He wants to make a square from this material, and as he is a bright man, and knows histrade, he goes atit as follows:

There, I give you hints enough, so youcan go ahead with the work and complete the square for the carpenter, or as the carpenter would.

A HARD ONE.

STILL another problem. A carpenter has a piece of wood—we will still use paper or cardboard the winner. Then I will place my hand and youstrike at it. Lots of water well, it is exciting when we are in earnest. Let's reverse the order. I hold my hand in the strike upwards and hit the back. Surprising how quick we are.

A STORY.

Well, never mind the bits of paper laying about, and you, Henry, can have the ten pen-

A HARD ONE.

HERE is a piece of paper say 3 inches square, with one-fourth gone.

Let us see if we can't divide it into eight parts and make two sets of pieces, 4 just alike in each set. When we have them in exact parts, go to work and put them together so they will make the original form again. It's not so easy as it looks, if you will keep your eyes from the original drawing. The drawing is not made in full; you must divide it yourself.

This, by the way, was one of "Abe" Lincoln's favorite ideas which he always amused children with; even when the cares of the country rested upon his head as President, he was ever ready to join in tricks, plays, puzzles and other childish pleasures. This reminds me that on March 4th President Harrison will become simple Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Cleveland, President Cleveland thus the political tide recedes from the one and carries the other on the great wave of success But we must get to work again. So here is

THE FOURTEEN PUZZLE.

THE FOURTEEN PUZZLE.

THIS will be the last one of this kind to-night, so have a little patience. Don't work too long at one puzzie, only 1 on g enough to train yourself not to avoid any work just because it's hard. Try several of them in succession. Perhaps you may get an idea in one that will help you with another. Here are four figures. Make four each of those marked 4 and two each of those marked 2; now put them together so they will make an oblong like this:

Parts of which I give in dotted lines. The paper or oblong can be 4 inches long by 2 1-2 inches wide.

All of these paper puzzles try one's good nature, and for a pastime they amuse you and in a

way discipline your minds. I have some more, but will save them for future use. Now for something else.

THREE SQUARES LEFT.

WHAT, more puzzles. Well, Ruby, pass me the toothpicks. Now I'm not going to tell you how this ingenious bit of maric is performed. You must work it out yourself. I will make six squares with the picks like this. Now remove five picks—or matches, if you have no picks—and leave three perfect squares. "I saw Aunt Annie do that, Uncle Charlie." I dare say, it is hard to get

Did you, Henry? I dare say, it is hard to get up new tricks, but you can't do this one. It is called—or was called when I was a boy

"HOP PENNIES."

LET me see, yes, I have ten pennies in my pocket and I place them in a row. I take up



one and place it on another. But I must pass over only two pennies to do it. The idea is to get five piles with two pennies on each pile. Give your start?

Well, I will. You see I take the fourth penny and place it on the first. I jumped over two Now I take the seventh penny and piace it on the third, and so on. You'll do it, take your time.

SLAP HANDS.

WHILE you are making out that puzzle and as I am tired thinking, Amy and I will play "Slap Hands."



Put your hand, palm open, on my knee. Now I will raise my hand two feet from yoursand hand two feet from yoursand if I can bring it down on yours three times out of five, before you with draw yours, I am the winner. Then I will place my hand and you strike at it. Lots of

Well, never mind the bits of paper laying about, and you, Henry, can have the ten pennies when you do the trick. Sit round and I will tell you a pretty story. Jolly! How the wind howls.

Once there was a poor lad who helped his father mend shoes. He also ran errands for neighbors and often spent too much time talking with children, telling them most wonderful stories, which he would make up as he went along. As he grew older the children from all about used to gather near his father's shop and watch for the story teller, so eager were they to hear a strange story from the simple lips of the cobbler's son.

cobbler's son.

So days, months and years went by and singular to relate, the story teller never grew old but remained just like a child in his mind. He would sit for an hour or two training his flowers, which grew in a sugar-box on top of the house, and would conjure up stories for the young people. After a time he wrote stories for the publishers, and was able to support his father and mother. So he lived, and when he died, in 1875, all the world sent tributes to his funeral. His name was Hans Christian Anderson, and he wrote the most beautiful fairy tales ever published. He was a gifted son of Denmark. So it is that the pure and simple become greater than the wise.

APRIL FOOL.



LOOK out for April Fool's Day, the first of next month. For ages this day has been styled April Fool's Day; even the Hindoos play foolish tricks that day, as do all nations. The custom was derived from religious rite which the people of the middle ages performed. They used to send people on silly errands, as Christ was sent from Annas to Caia phas, and from Pilate to Caia p h a s, and from Pilate to Herod. It is all right to be abandoned to nonsense once a year, but don't play harmful jokes. Easter occurs

next month, the festival of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. I like the old custom, children, when people used to meet Easter Day and give one another an Easter Kiss. But after all, nothing is sweeter than a good-night kiss from all for UNCLE CHARLIE.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands ofcases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, Iwill send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W.A. Noyes, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N.Y.



JUST FULL

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of improvements—
Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. To
begin with, they're
the smallest, and
the easiest to take.
They're tiny,
sugar-coated antibilious granules,
scarcely larger
than mustard
seeds. Every child
is ready for them.
Then, after they're taken, instead of disturbing and shocking the system, they act
in a mild, easy, and natural way. There's
no chance for any reaction afterward. Their
help lasts. Constipation, Indigestion, Bilious
Attacks, Sick or Billous Headaches, and all
derangements of the liver, stomach, and
bowels are promptly relieved and permanently cured.

They're put up in glass vials, which keeps
them always fresh and reliable with

They're put up in glass vials, which keeps them always fresh and reliable, unlike the ordinary pills in wooden or pasteboard

And they're the cheapest pills you can buy, for they're guaranteed to give satisfaction, or your money is returned. You pay only for the good you get.

HOME STUDY, Book-keeping, Business Forms, Penmanship, Arithmetic, Shorthand, etc., thor-ght at student's Home by MAIL. References from tet. Send 6c, for Trial Lesson and Catalogue. & STRATTON'S, 21 Lafayette St., Buffalo, N.Y.

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LADIES or Young MEN WANTED to take light pleasant work at their own homes; \$1 to \$5 per day can be quietly made; work sent by mail; Mfg. Co., box 5331, Boston, Mas



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Bottled Electricity Dr. G. W. Dively, Cincinnati, O.

Uncle Tom's Cabin, by Harriet Beecher Stowe, and The for 14 cents. F. M. Lupron, Publisher, 106 Reade St., New York. FREE SAMPLE CARDS. THE FIRST, CHEAPEST AND BEST.

CARDS FOR 1893. SO PREMIUM ARTICLES FREE. FILL YOUR OWN TEETH Instructions free. Union Dental Co., Chicago Ill.

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\$700 for the largest Finch Tree Tomat. 1893, \$600 for 2d, \$500 for 3d, \$400 for \$300 for the 5th. Conditions sent with this The MANSFIELD TOMATO

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FIVE CINNAMON VINES FREE

cate white blossoms, emitting a delicious cinnamor fragrance, will grow from 10 to 30 ft, in a single season, and for covering Arbors, Screens, or Verandas is without a rival. I will send 5 Bulbs free and postpaid, to every person sending me 25 cts. for the above Tree Tomato Collection. The bulbs will produce 5 Beast tiple Visace, exactly the same in every respect as I have been selling for One Dollar. Address plainly FRANK FINCH (Box O) CLYDE, N.Y.

The Every person sending for the above Tree. Collection will receive a certificate which will them to 75 cents worth of Choice Seeds (their own tion from my list), which will be sent free of cand postparid. This is the greatest off made by a Reliable firm in this or any other cand in the sent free of the cand postparid. Frank Finch is perfectly reliable and trustworthy



of information on the proper construc-tion of Pianos and Organs. We ship on test trial, ask no cash in advance, sell on instalments, give greater walue for the money than any other manufacture Send for this book at once to BEETHOVEN ORGAN CO. WASHINGTON, N. J. P. O. Box 1024.





young and old in our new latest thing out. Build you rid's Fair. While you are how, it keeps you guessing.

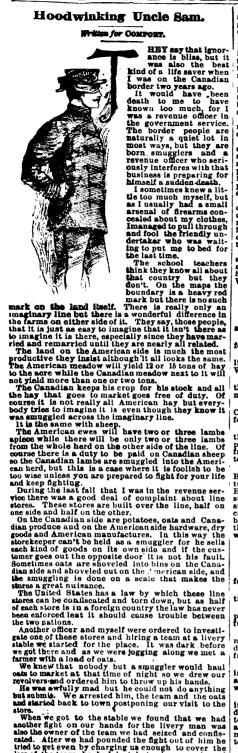
OUR CREATEST OFFER READ THIS! We mean from Japan we have imported



rant Japanese Crope Table Mat, decorated in beautiful designs by a fine Japanese artist. (We have seen mats like this advertised by another firm for 20 cts.) Remember, the above four articles will be mailed, postpaid, carefully packed, at once, on receipt of 10 cents in stamps or postal note. Three lots for 25 cents. Read the following, which is but one of the many letters received:

"I have received the Japanese goods you advertise, and am astonished at the wonderful bargain. Enclosed find Octs. for six lots." VIOLA H. RAY, Somerville, Mass.

We make the above great offer to introduce our goods as 72 want agents everywhere. Address all orders to WESTERN SUPPLY CO., 602 H.4th St., St.Louis, Mo.



and started back to town postponing our visit to the store.

When we got to the stable we found that we had another fight on our hands for the livery man was also the owner of the team we had seized and confiscated. After we had pounded the fight out of him he tried to get even by charging us enough to cover the loss of the team he had lost, but when we showed him the handcuffs we found that he had made out a stone bill.

wrong bill.

I left soon after that and my partner isn't there either. He thought it was fun to arrest smugglers but be could not shoot quick enough and went to the triendly ndertaker next day.

The man who took my place sent to the department the first day for instructions as to what to do with the smuggled goods that he seized. He got the instructions but he never used them.

Very early in the game he learned that where ignorance is bliss it's folly to be wise. You see he attended my partner's funeral.

CLOCKS AND WATCHES.

Copyright, 1893, by the Publishers of COMPORT.



ANCY HANKS has beaten the world's record, by trot-ting a mile in 2 minutes and 5 seconds.

ting a mile in 2 minutes and 5 seconds.

White all the world marvelled at her speed, how few people thought of the means, by which the time was determined.

If it had not been

ght improvement over their predecessors. Some these sand-glasses are still to be seen in use, or as

of these sand-glasses are still to be seen in use, or as curicalties.

About 330 B. O. the first sun dial was erected in Rome, and consisted of a stone column, which threw shadows of different lengths, at certain hours of the day. From this original, the more modern sun dial as table of the still st

work basket or for pocket companion. One nook were succeeded by mainsprings, but in clocks were succeeded by mainsprings, sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion. One nook sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publishers of Companion on 10c. It is sells for 10c. at stores, but The Publis

adapted to the measurement of time, and therefore

adapted to the measurement of time, and therefore gave to the world one of the most important factors of the modern time-piece.

The only perfect pendulum is the one made in two kinds of metal. It is composed of bars, one set sliding through the other; no matter what the temperature may be the expansion of one is counteracted by the contraction of the other, and, the length always remains the same.

Watches were invented at Nurenburg, during the last of the 16th Century. A watch is nothing more than a miniature clock, whose pendulum is replaced by a balance wheel; the works are practically the same and the same terms are applicable to both.

The essential parts consist of a train of wheels, the main apring from which its motion is derived, the dial and hands which interpret the time to the owner. The dial is made by fusing enamel upon a thoroughly cleaned disc of copper, this is ground on a stone, then subjected again to heat which glazes the surface; the figures are then painted in with black porcelain paint, and burned in. The plain English figures are now being used in the newest watches, in place of the old Roman numerals, and are much more easily deciphered.

The stop-watch, besides having the essential parts of an ordinary time-keeper, has a hand which makes one revolution around a small dial in one second, making four or five quick movements in the circuit, indicating quarters or fifths of seconds; a pressure on a stud at the side of the watch starts and stops this hand.

The principal foreign watch factories are situated at Geneva, Chaux de Fonds and Locle, Switzerland, also at Liverpool, England. Our own are at Elgin, Springfield and Grand Crossing, Ill., Marwin, N. J., Waterbury, Conn., Waltham and Boston, Mass.

WORLD'S FAIR NOTES.

The prominent colleges and universities have ecured space for exhibits at the World's Fair.

The original life-boat in which Grace Darling performed her thrilling deed, will be sent for exhibition.

Three hundred thousand incandescent electric lights are to be used for the interior lighting of the World's Fair buildings.

Missouri produces three-fourths of all the sine in the United States and will exhibit a statue of that metal at the World's Fair.

A cheese will be sent to the World's Pair from Can:da which will weigh thirteen tons. A special foundation is being built for it.

There will be a most interesting collection of all that relates to fishing, from the bone fish-hooks of primitive man to the modern fly that cannot be told from a real insect, and from the untrimmed sapling to the most modern steel trout pole with patent reci.

A reproduction in salt of the Goddess of Liberty on Bedloe's Island in New York Harbor, is being sculptured at the works of the Salt Union in Winsford, England, for exhibition at the World's Fair. The statue itself is five feet six inches high, and it will be taken the world's the works of the salt and the sub-base will be of amber colored rock salt, to imitate the rocks of the island. The base will be highly ornamented, with mouldings, panels and inscriptions.

HAPPENINGS.

A resident of Michigan boasts that though married forty years he never kissed his wife.

Belva Lockwood says it is wicked to buy children tin soldiers, as it makes them bloodthirsty.

Ice-cutters in Maine recently found a half-blown pond-lily in a cake of ice. They removed it carefully, put it in water, and it burst into full bloom.

The man who invented the drop gates used at almost every railway crossing, died recently in Providence. He leaves seven wives, having been divorced from six.

A signal service officer says that the smoke hanging over cities acts, in quiet days in cold weather, as a blanket, often making the temperature 20 degress warmer than the surrounding country.

There is a gentle sarcasm, although evidently not intended, in an old book on the bringing up of children, which says, "Every child should be taught how to kindle the kitchen fire. It is an art which many an adult does not understand." There are a great many adults, however, who think they understand it too well.

In some of the English towns they have revived an old law against swearing, enacted during the reign of George II, imposing a fine of a shilling an oath, for a laborer, two shillings, when the offender is above a laborer socially and under the grade of a gentleman, and five shillings an oath if uttered by a gentleman. This applies both to the public streets and to swearing upon one's own premises.

and to swearing upon one's own premises.

In London, certain ingenious persons throw huge advertisements, by means of magic lanterns, upon the clouds at night. The only hope for the suffering public lies in the hope that the rival advertisers will so mix up their signs as to render them unreadable, and thereby be forced to give up. But if not, there will be a rare opportunity afforded for real estate owners to sue people for trespassing upon their sky. In Norwich, Connecticut, during the progress of a trial for attempted assassination the pistol with which the deed was attempted was called for and produced. The state's attorney toyed with it a few minutes, and pointing it at himself and at other lawyers, snapped the hammer several times. He then passed it up to the presiding judge, who grew visibly pale as he examined it and found four loaded cartridges in it, with the bases of three of them dented by the hammer.

Three bold highwaymen in Indiana sallied forth to

by the hammer.

Three bold highwaymen in Indiana sallied forth to relieve wayfarers of their purses. They saw two travelers coming towards them. They concealed themselves, drew revolvers and when the victims approached, sprang out and yelled "Hands up!" The meek strangers produced a pair of sandbags, and fell upon them with the greatest fury, beating them frightfully and taking away their revolvers. The two men were also highwaymen, and being captured shortly after, all concerned are now safely locked up.

Hanting for buried treasure will doubtless always.

shortly after, all concerned are now safely locked up. Hunting for buried treasure will doubtless always fascinate humanity. Over a hundred years ago the British frigate Hussar sank in Hell Gate, near New York City, laden with an immense amount of gold coin. A company of wreckers was recently formed and \$15,000 have been expended in working with a diver and dredger. Lass January the company failed with \$100 in its treasury. They fished up, in all, a box of junk and two guiness. One of the coins, dated 1760, was auctioned off for \$850, the other, dated 1766 sold for \$1,250.

In Pennsylvania a legislative investigation reveals the fact that \$3,000 was paid for the scalps of certain alleged wild animals, said scalps being found to have been manufactured out of mule's heads and buffalo robes. In nine months, \$90,000 was paid for the killing of hawks and owls, at 50 cents each, and many parties were found to be raising hawks and owls as a profitable investment. In many instances the various disbursing officers were so ignorant of the characteristics of these animals, that all sorts of heads, of chickens, turkeys and various birds, were paimed off upon them.

PILES CURED FREE!

A new, certain, painless cure for all forms of piles; gives immediate relief, and permanent cure. To prove it we will send a trial package free to any one for one 2c. stamp for postage.

Address Pyramid Drug Co., Albien, Mich.

LADIES' FANCY WORK SET.

LADIES' FANCY WORK SET.

We have just imported thousands of Crochet Sets, they contain 3 vegetable vory and steel crochet hooks different sizes, coming in a screw top wooden case; these sets are what every lady wants in her work basket or for pocket companion. One hook sells for loc. at stores, but The Publishers of Comport, Augusta, Maine, desire to have all read the grand February issue and will send one of these complete sets free to all who send 4c. for mailing same together with sample copy of March Comport.

AGENTS GUM TISSUE mends clothing better than needle and thread; silks, woolens, by mail. STAYNOR & CO., Providence, R. I.



OLD COINS

\$13,388 Paid For 149 Old Coins. Save all you get, coined before 1878, and

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At 4 Price Gold, wd Silver Watches, Bicyclea, Tricycles, Grans and Pintols, Cartia, Bewing Hackings, Grans Sund Pintols, Cartia, Bergies, Wagons, Cartiages Sales, Cash Brawers, Letter Pressets, Accordeous, Organs, Fiance, Cafer Hills, Letter Pressets, Accordeous, Organs, Fiance, Cafer Hills, Latter, Bosse Hills, Act Serven, Treath, Antils, HayDatters, Corn Shellory, Laws However, Conto Bullis, Latter, Bendert, DumpCarts, Corn Shellory, Panting Hills, Corn Bright, Latter, Bendert, DumpCarts, Panting Hills, Corn Bry, Stock, Birtham, Wringers, Enginee, Saws, Steel Slake, Crush Dump, Stock, Elevator, Railread, Platform and Counter Stalks. South for free Catelogue and see how to save Honey. Catalogue and see how to save Money. St., CHICAGO SCALE CO., Chicago, MJ

500 DOCTORS **EUREKA PILLS**

Formula of Thos. P. Shaw, A.M., M.D., Lowell.

TONIC,—LAXATIVE AND CATHARTIC,
For Keen Appetite, Pure Blood, Clear Complexion,
take these pills. They Cure Constipation, Dyspepsia, Sick Headache. Try Them.
Sent by mail, postpaid, 25 cents. Mention paper.
EUREKA PILL CO., Lowell, Mass.



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And FJUID and SOLID EXTRACTS
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BLOOD FORHIER KNOWN, Curse
Cancer, Catarrh, Sal's Rhesum, Recema,
Rheumatism, Dyappsia, Sick Headacha, Constipation, Piles, WhoopingCough, and all BLOOD DISKARES,
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Will cure without medicine all weakness resulting from over-taxation of brain, nerve forces, sleeplessness, languar, rheumatism, kidney, liver and bladder complaints, ame back, lumbago, sciatica, general li-health, etc. This electric belt contains Wonderful improvements over all others, and gives a current that is instantly felt by wearer or we forfest \$5,000. Thousands have been cured by this marvelous inventor after all other zemedicalled; we give hundreds of bestimonials. Contained the produced to the contained of the cont

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MORECATAR R.H. The Great German Remedy is a positive cure. Free sample Remedy is a positive cure. Free sample package and book for 4 cents in stamps. B. H. MEDICALCO., East Hampton, Conn.

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grows a beard on the smoothest face is 20 days or money refunded. Never falls, Sent on receipt of 50c stamps or silver; 5 packages for \$1. Beware of cheep initiations; none other genuine. Send for circular. Address, T. W. SAXE, box 122, Warsaw, Indinas.

EPILEPSY. ETC., permanently cured. Treather, testimonials and Remedy for trial sent FREE to any sufferer. Established 22 years. Address Dr. EOSS, Eichmond, Indians.

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A PRESENT.

CEND us your address and we will make you a present of the best Automatic WASHING MACHINE in the World. No wash-board or rubbing needed. We want you to show it to your friends, a coracta agent if you can. You can COIN MONEY we also give a HANDSOME WATCH to the first from each county. Write quick. Address N. Y. LAUNDRY WORKS, 30 Murray Street, N. Y.



ON 30 DAYS' TRIAL. the palin the cup presses bit the palin the cup presses bit the intestines livet as a pe con does with the finger. With light presses the Hernia is held securely day and night, and a radicure certain. It is easy, durable and cheap. Sent by microlars free.

SURELY CURED.

To the Editor—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy free to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their express and post office address. T. A. Slocum, M. C., 183 Pearl St., New York.

From Maine to California.



MAINE, Norway P. O.—Enclosed find five dollars for which send me Oxien. I cannot say too much in praise of Oxien. It cured my 70-year-old father of rheumatism.—Mrs. Geo. E. Towslee.

MASS., Fall River.—My life was despaired of, but after using one Glant Box of Oxien. I became perfectly well and strong.—John Silun, Gen. Agt. Vt. Life Ins. Co.

NEW YORK, De Ruyter.—Oxien has benefited me more than anything I ever used.—Birs. William Sterling.

PENN. Saluvia, Fullton Co.—Enclosed find ten dollars for Oxien. Was crippled with rheumatism and other aliments. Oxien cured me, and it has done wonders for others.—Robert Sipes.

LOUISIANA. Lehmann.—God bless Oxien. It cured my.wife, for whom doctors could do nothing.—B. H. Green.

GEORGIA, Rocky Ford.—It is a Godsend to the world. Please send me another feliant box for enclosed dollar.—Thos. H. Skringer.

NORTH CAROLINA, Leggett.—Oxien has done me more good than any doctor's medicine lever tried.—Caroline H. Hedgpeth.

ALABAMA, Chunchula.—Oxien is worth its weight in gold, and I would not be without it.—O. P. Ingersol.

FLORIDA, St. Augustine.—For years I was a great sufferer from nervous prostration, but now I am well and strong again, and all to whom I give this Wonderful Food for the Nerves experience the same improvement.—Mrs. Ellen E. S. Phillips.

OHIO, Sharon Centre.—For a long time my husband had fits Doctors could do nothing. Since he has used Oxien he has had no sign of his old trouble.—Mrs. John Houghlat.

ILLINOIS, Ridge Farm.

made me feel like a new man. It it will.—Chas. Buell.

NEB., Howe.—It has done

MICHIGAN. Dundee.—It had a paralytic stroke Jannary, 1891, and lost the use of my right side. I spent nearly \$500, but Oxien is the only thing that did me any good, and it has done wonders. This is my first trial at writing since the shock.—W. W. Fleming.

TEXAS, Bowle,—May God bless you always for Oxien. I have no language to teil how happy and thankful I feel. After twenty years' affliction Oxien made me young again.—W. F. Rogers.

COLORADO, Highliands.—Ox

Cornick.

CALIFORNIA, San Bernardino.—For thirteen years I suffered with catarih, but tried your Wonderful Food for the Nerves, and to my great joy am now perfectly well.—Miss Rosa Velasquez.

CALIFORNIA, San Francisco.—I was a complete wreck, but after using Oxien am now well and strong. My wife's health has been surprisingly improved also by your Wonderful Food for the Nerves. I send \$30 for a lot of Oxien and Plasters.—Jas. G. Bennett, Chief Engineer, Telephone Building.



From Poverty to Riches.

One agent says: "In half on hour I have sold ten dollars' worth (or at the rate of thirty thousand dollars a year profit) and still they are coming for it. The Oxien Electric Porous Plasters are doing wonders here."

Not a day passes but what scores of letters like the foregoing reach us from grateful men and women whose lives have been saved by our Wonderful Food for the Nerves, Oxien.

Every hour brings fresh proof that Oxien is the food which Scientists have searched for; the MEDIOINE which doctors have longed for; and the Rellier which hopeless sufferers have prayed for. It gives new life, new hope, new power, new vigor, new strength, new happiness.

It is a Godsend for the weak and weary; and a Godsend to thousands of Home Workers who are making fortunes introducing it to their friends and neighbors. Write at once for free samples and terms to agents and secure your territory.

CASH PAID.

Soc. MADE IN A MINUTE! If you will agree to show the Lucky Investment Booklet we send you with free samples to at least three feeble persons, we will send you in advance a 50 cent cash cert. This will trouble you but a minute, and as we pay in advance it is well and and fifty thousand dollars we are giving away as premiums, lifting many from poverty to riches.

THE GIANT OXIE CO., 226 Willow Street, AUGUSTA, MAIXE.

COLUMBIA'S NEW SUITOR.

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The published order of procession was as follows:

The published order of procession was as follows:

Undertaker,
Marshal of the Kingdom,
Mechanic's Benefit Union,
Honolulu Fire Department,
Attending Physicians,
Konohibi of Lands of Her late Royal Highness,
His Excellency the Governor of Oahu and
Mani and Staff,
Band,
Marines from U. S. S. Hartford,
Mimalahoa,
King's Gwa,
Prince's Own,
Prince's Own,
Servants of Her late Royal Highness,
The Clergy of the Royal Highness,
The Clergy of the Right Reverend Bishof of
Diba, Vicar-Apostolic of the Hawaiian Islands,
The Clergy of the Anglican Church in Hawaii,
His Lordship the Right Reverend Bishof of
Honolulu,
Protestant Clergy,
Opficiating Clergyman,
Ahahui Opiopio Puuwai Lokahi,
Ahahui Poola,

ESCORT OF CAVALRY, LARGE KAHILIS, SMALL KAHILIS,



ESCORT OF CAVALRY, LARGE KAHILIS, SMALL KAHILIS, PALL BEARERS,

CARRIAGE OF THE HONORABLE MRS. B. P. BISHOP,
CARRIAGE OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN DOWAGER,
CARRIAGE OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN DOWAGER,
HIS MAJESTY'S STAFF,
CARRIAGE OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS
LILLUOKALANI,
CARRIAGE OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS
LIKELIKE,
CARRIAGE OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS
KEKAULIKE,
CARRIAGE OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS
KEKAULIKE,
CARRIAGE OF HER LATE ROYAL HIGHNESS,
THE CHANCELLOR,
HIS MAJESTY'S MINISTERS,
DIPLOMATIC CORPS,
NOBLES,
JUGGES OF THE SUPREME COURT,
PRIVY COUNCILLORS,
CONSULAR CORPS, CAPTAIN AND OFFICERS OF U. S. S.
HARTFORD,
CIRCUIT JUDGES,
CLERKS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS,
COLLECTOR GENERAL OF CUSTOMS, CUSTOMS,
SHELIFFS OF THE DIFFERENT ISLANDS,
MEMBERS OF THE BAR,
FOREION RESIDENTS,
HAWAIIAN POPULATION GENERALLY,
HAWAIIAN CAVALEY,
POLICE FORCE.

The body had lain in state for weeks, to permit
these elaborate preparations to be made. The

Police Force.

The body had lain in state for weeks, to permit these elaborate preparations to be made. The Kahilis, which are only used on these occasions, are long plumed rods, the plumes being made of the feathers of tropical birds, some of which are now extinct. After the funeral ceremonies, they are it is said wrapped in tobacco and cloth, and are put away until they shall be called into use again by the death of a member of the Royal Family. Some of these Kahilis have been in use for generations.

The foregoing shows something of the state which is observed by this tiny Pacific kingdom.

If, with its sixty-five million inhabitants, the United States were to make its public funerals as elaborate as this, in proportion, a body would have to lie in state a year, in order that preparations on a sufficiently magnificent scale might be made.

Happenings Here, There 🗝 Yonder.

China has twenty times more coal than Europe. In London there are about 15,000 trees in the public

75,000 mackerel were recently caught in one night in Cape Cod bay. The University of Pennsylvania is said to be about to open its doors to women.

The Royal Sovereign of the English Navy is the largest war ship afloat.

So rare are the buffalo becoming that a full grown one now sells for a thousand dollars.

A German in Lynn, Massachusetts, went into a restaurant and ate six dozen oysters recently.

The longest horse-car line in the world is in Argentine It is fifty miles in length.

On the elevated railroads in New York City 208,-270,681 passengers were carried last year.

There is more alcohol in eider than in beer. The average amount in beer is about 4 per cent, in eider

An army officer in the West, in raiding an Indian village, found a pack of cards made out of the skin of a white man.

Stones are found in Finland which forete'l, by changing color, the probable character of the weather in the near future.

Scientific men say that there are over 250,000 kinds of insects. Two bundred different kinds make their homes in pine trees.

The ocean is more productive than the land. An

acre of good fishing ground will yield more food than an acre of the best farm. The fine large corks used in champagne bottles cost about one cent each. The grapes from which champagne is made are about the size of red currants.

The Empire State Express, a fast train on the New York Central Railroad, recently ran ten miles at the rate of ninety-five miles an hour to make up lost time. time.

An elevated railroad patterned after the New York Elevated Railroad is being built in Liverpool. The first section is nearly completed. The trains are to be operated by electricity.

German scientists assure us that coal suffers an important loss in weight and heat producing qualities by prolonged exposure to light and air. The softer the coal, the greater is this loss.

The tail office buildings of Chicago have attracted the attention and wonder of the world. Now one is to be built there the front of which will be all of glass and aluminum, the strongest and lightest metal known.

The doors, windows and ports of the U. S. Cruiser New York are to be fitted with wire glass which will stand the shock of the discharge of heavy guns. Wire glass is about 1-4 inch thick and has imbedded in it a meshwork of strong wire,

meshwork of strong wire.

In Paris the drinking water used comes from the river Seine, but recently it has been recommended that the water should not even be used to sprinkle the streets because when it dries, the digt carried in it in solution, is so full of contagious germs.

The new battleships of the U. S. Navy are to be armed with 45-ton guns. The Italian battleships are armed with 100-ton guns, but the concussion from the firing of these very heavy guns is so great that it is believed that the ship carrying them would be wrenched apart before injuring the enemy.

NOTICE TO THE SHUT INS.

We will have some specially interesting news to tell you next month about changes in the Sunshine for Shut Ins department, copy for which was received too late for this issue.

CANCER AND ITS CURE.

Drs. McLeish & Weber, 123 John St., Cincinnati, O., have made the treatment of Cancer a specialty for twenty years. Their success is set forth in a "Treatise" mailed free to anyone.

ABOUT LETTER-WRITING.

ABOUT LETTER-WRITING.

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ing upon a back ground of pure gold; size, 1632. In the center resting upon a beautiful easel and supported by a slab of purest marble is an open book in which to register the names and births of each member of the family, on the left a beautiful scroll and on the right another beautiful scroll on which to register the marriages and deaths. Surmounting all in most beautiful letters are the words, "GOD RLPSS OUR FAMILY." Underneath are spaces for Fathers' and Mothers' pictures, and all around are similar spaces interspersed with most beautiful flowers and leaves buds and blossoms, roses and vines, etc., in varied colors and matchless beauty, all had costly back ground of Sold GOM, GENTS, NOW IS YOUR TIME! Our register. and Chain, 865. All charges prepaid. STANDARB SUPPLY HOUSE, Chicago, Ill.



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even advanced cases. Inclose stamp. Can
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MISS FLORENCE E. BEHLER,
No. 37 Alma St., Alleghamy, Penna, writes: Derma-Royale
works like a charm. My face was covered with freckles
and in less than two weeks' time they are all gone. My
complexion is now clear and white as a child's. Everyone
can see what Derma-Royale did for me.

Mrs. Ella M. Murray, Nowton, N. C. writes; I have used one bottle and have found a great change. I had what the doctors here called Skin Leprosy—large brown spots, causing no pain or trouble, except the looks. Now they have entirely gone and I can recommend Derma-Royale highly. Please send me your terms to agents.

May Von Hoene, No. 807 Dayton Street, Newport, Ry. writes: For nearly five years I was afflicted with eczema. My face was a mass of sores and scabs and the itching was terrible, I found nothing that could help me until I tried your Derma-Royale. I have not used quite a bottle and my skin is smooth and clear. I call myself cured. and consider Derma-Royale the greatest remedy in the world.

Miss Lillie Hanna, No. 23 Brainard Block, Cleveland, Ohio, writes: Your Derma-Royale cured my blackheads in two nights.

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The new discovery for curing cutaneous affections, removing discolorations and bleaching and brightening the complexion. In experimenting in the laundry with a new bleach for fine fabrics it was discovered that all spots, freckles, tan, and other discolorations were quickly removed from the hands and arms without the slightest injury to the skin. The discovery was submitted to experienced Dermatologists and Physicians who incorporated it with well known curatives and prepared for us the marvelous Derma-Royale. THERE REVER WAS ANTHING LIKE IT. It is perfectly harmless and so simple a child can use it. Apply at night—the improvement apparent after a single application will surprise and delight you. One bottle completely removes and cures the meat agravated case and thoroughly clears, whitens and besutfies the complexion. It has never failed—IT CAN NOT FAIL. It is highly recommended by Physicians and its sure results warrant us in offering.

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Ah, how death.
Anvil chorus.
Ah, my words.
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A love song.
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Dearest Mae.
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Speak to me.
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See saw.

"—N. Y. World
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Tulochgorum.
"Is better so.
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The cup of tea.
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The did maid.
The birdge.
The watermill.

Billy boy.

By gone hours.

Beware.

Beware.

Beware.

Bell boy.

Bry gone hours.

Boy ream on, Do not mingle.
Beware.

Beware.

Bell pream on, Do not mingle.
Beware.

Beware.

Bell pream on, Do not mingle.
Beware.

Beware.

Bell pream on, Do not mingle.
Bell p

THE MYSTIC CASTLE.

Correspondence in this department should be addressed to Oldcastle, Utica, N. Y. Correct name and address should accompany every communication, even when a nom de plume is used.

COMFORT is so crowded with good things this month, that not so much space as usual can be given to this department. The publisher is considering the advisability of making vast improvements in it so as to increase its already large interest. Duotice of such change in this line will be given to the

readers.

As the "Mystic Castle" was omitted from the December COMPORT, there are no solutions to publish this month.

No, 392. Numerical.

No, 392. Numerical.

The whole, composed of 45 letters, is an old adage.
The 31, 5, 45, 17, 37 is to betide.
The 42, 1, 25, 39, 29 are muscles.
The 21, 28, 9, 34, 26 is a penalty.
The 27, 8, 8, 36, 11 is a grimace.
The 3, 41, 19, 14, 44 is to reject.
The 20, 4, 38, 13, 10 is a fragment.
The 6, 18, 40, 32, 23 is putrefaction.
The 16, 43, 12, 24, 21 is a kind of slaty rock.
The 30, 22, 33, 35, 15 is to tax to the amount of a enth.

ROMULUS. Belfast, Me.,

No. 393. Letter Enigma.

In "a very fast youth," In "an aching tooth."

In "monstrous bites,"
In "numerous fights."
The whole, though very necessary,
Compels the people to be of it wary.
San Francisco, Cal.,

KERNEL.

No. 394. Letter Enigma.

In "come," not in "go," In "above" and in "below;" In "enemy," not in "friend," In "fort to defend,"

In "fort to defend."
In "at our wits' end;"
In "rake," not in "hoe,"
In "the gifts we bestow."
I take total, in sending to total,
These lines of my composing, rude!
My muse has forsaken me entirely,
And with no thoughts has she me imbued.
Rochester, N. Y.

No. 386. Star.

2. A letter. 2. Bachelor of Arts, (abbr.) 3. Peratining to Aaron. 4. Relating to oxen and cows. 5. Nothing. 6. To encircle, (obs.) 7. A small cell. 8. The beginning of clk hunting. 9. A letter. Waterman, Ills., No. 396. Half square.

1. A letter. 2. Therefore. 3. To insulate. 4. A cutting. 5. To mulct, Jobs.) 6. A stout woolen stuff. Quieted. 8. A piece of music. 9. A successor. 10 Champions.

San Francisco, Cal., J. C. M.

No. 397. Charade.

My first the fields in Spring,
My second makes the echoes ring.
The total, oh how sad to pen!
Is often fieeced by bunco men.
Hartford City, Ind., No. 398. Charade.

LEANDEL.

No. 398. Charade.
Merrily sings the milkmaid, O!
Sweetly do the violets blow
Down among the meadow grass,
Where the shadows gently pass
Over shrub, and flower, and tree,
And all earth is glad and free,
Smiling as the violets sweet.
I would isst first, for a treat,
It the milkmaid blithe and gay,
Passes me with but a smile,
I would speak to her the while
Of the beauties round me spread,
I would speak to her the while
Of the sky above my head,
Total trees on lofty hills,
Shady nooks and running rills.
But she, country born and bred,
Used among these vales to tread,
Cannot see

But suc, Used among these conditions the Cannot see How sweet to me, Late from out the crowded mart, All the beauties that my heart Bounds with pleasure to behold. Of the half has not been told of what nature gives so free; One to taste them, sure must see. Binghamton, N. Y.,

No. 399. Pentagon.

To incubate. 3. On A. France.

1. A letter. 2. To incubate. 3. One who purifies.
4. Red ferruginous quartz. 5. Franciscan friars. 5. Lukewarmness. 7. One who withdraws. 8. That which is retained. 9. Quick sands.
White House, N. J.,
No. 400. Transposition.

No. 400. Transposition.

The total writes to please the folks who read, And more to fancy than to facts gives heed; He weaves his webs in richest colorings dressed; In fairest figures are his thoughts expressed. He writes for fame, and often gains the prize, Which so attractive seems to human eyes. He writes for gain—for he "loves tin"—as well As those who in the markets buy and sell; And when a bit he makes, like Eugene Sue, Or Walter Scott, or other "totals," true, A fortune comes to him in "yellow boys," Which he—as he "loves (in"—no doubt enjoys, Dubois, Ills., ASPIRO.

Nos. 401-404. Diamonds.

(401) 1. A letter. 2. To drink a little, 3. The creater of the second selection of the selection

Nos. 401-404. Diamonds.

(401) 1. A letter. 2. To drink a little. 3. The ermine in its summer pelage. 4. Bombastic. 5. Transgression. 6. Fondling. 7. A tithe, (Scot.) 8. A domestic animal. 2. A letter.

Bloomingsburg, Ind.,

(402) 1. A letter. 2. To edge. 3. One who subdues. 4. Pertaining to Ham or his descendants. 5. Half Pagan. 6. Having spirit. 7. A fixed star in the left foot of the constellation Orion. 8. An errand boy. 9. A letter.

Poultney, Vt.,

GUARDINEER.

(403) I. A letter, 2. A small point or spot. 3. A swhorse hairs drawn through the skin. 4. Blots ut. 5. A sovereign. 6. Shaking. 7. Approaches, A place of bestial debauchery. 9. A letter from 8. A place ...
Oldcastle.
Norris City, Ills.,

(464) 1. A consonant. 2. Apropos. 3. Ghosts. 4. The salivary gland situated nearest the ear. 5. Complete views in every direction. 6. A remedy, which acts on the nerves. 7. A general name for the various tribes of monkeys. 8. Any cavity closed at one end. 9. A letter in Spain.

Colebrook, Wisc.,

S. PAYNE

- No. 405. Rhomboid.

1

9755

No. 405. Rhomboid.

Across:—1. A tribe of composite plants, 2. Images.

3. A robber. 4. Deputies in India. 5. To sail back and forth. 6. An assembly.

Down:—1. A consonant. 2. A pronoun. 3. A laint. 4. Partaking of the same properties. 5. Consisting of dew. 6. A genus of bony fishes. 7. A room artificially warmed. 8. A male name. 9. A high wave or billow. 10. An abbreviation. 11. A vowel. Ypsilanti, Mich.,

No. 406. lcosahedron.

No. 406. Icosancaron.

L An accomplice. 2. Relating to a branch of science, 3. A Hungarian foot soldier in the Austrian service. 4. Compassionate. 5. Birth marks. 6. Reforms. 7. One of a class of Moorish conjurers. 8. An old coin. 9. Pertaining to sleep. 10. To move. 11. Moves slowly. 12. A neglect to perform services for two years. 13. Musical syllables.

Belton, Texas,

BLACK EYED CHARLEY.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS. For the earliest and best list of solutions to this month's "Mysteries," one year's subscription to Comport. For the next best list, "Fountain Pen of Comfort. Third, ten complete novels.

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Read Carefully and Act Promptly!! ECYPTIAN RECULATOR TEA CONSTIPATION DEFINED.

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EVERYBODY knows that food is required for the growth and preservation of our bodies. Every day nature requires a supply of nourishment to support life; and by the Digestive organs, the nutriment is extracted from the food at feter the nutritive properties have been absorbed from the food it becomes foul, offensive matter, requiring prompt excrement from the body bowels fall to promptly and properly carry off this disagreeable and poisonous mass, it is called CONSTIPATION.

The celebrated Dr. WURTBURG, of Berlin, defines Constipation as follows:

"Constipation —Sluggish or incomplete action in evacuating the bowels; the inability of
the lower intestines to expel the alvine discharges, the putrid matter often remaining in the
bowels several days." "Purthury.

When this effete and poisonous matter remains in the system it poisons and contaminates every organ with which it comes in

IT COMES IN CONTACT WITH The Stomach, Liver, Heart, and all Vital Organs.

HOW DOES IT DO THIS? The blood becomes poisoned, and in its circulation through our entire system, it carries the poison from this foul, effete matter to every organ and tissue in the body.

that EGYPTIAN REGULATOR TEA positively and permanently cures you of Constipation, Liver Complaint, Dyspepsia, Billiousness, Sick Heads healthy manhood and womanhood, good appetite, perache, Nervous Debility, Female Weakness, Consumption, and also that most distressing, uncomfortable and dangerous disease, Corpulency. A trial will cost you nothing, while it cost us a large sum of money to insert this advertisement; if the sent with each trial package, gives fuller details, sent with each trial package, gives fuller details, money order or registered letter, and address money.

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Is an absolute and permanent cure for Constipation and all Diseases arising therefrom. It is not a purgative—It simply acts in a manner which assists nature and aids to regulate the Liver and Bowels.

It is purely vegetable and contains no opiates or narcotics; but is merely a mild, yet thorough agent in compelling the organs to perform their proper functions. It acts upon the entire Digestive organs and Nutritive system, stimulating the whole to complete and healthy action.

"The importance of having the Digestive Organs and Nutritive System in a perfectly healthy and easily working condition, as well as the organs of Circulation and Secretion, cannot be over-estimated." Poter.

To sum it up as concisely as possible, the properties of the simple combination of roots, grasses and leaves which enter into the composition of this Tea are three-fold: lst—To evacuate the facces and gases, which, distending the large intestine, thwart peristaltic action 2d—To tone the wall-sof the bowels and thus prevent re-accumulation of facces and the products of their decomposition, to increase the flow of intestinal mutuus, and thus guard against further constipation. 3d—To thoroughly cleanse every organ and tissue in the body and put them in a purely healthy condition.

Can all this be accomplished by one dose? No I This remedy does not perform miracles. Can it be accomplished by one package of the Tea? Yes, it cannot. Can the beaution of the compact of the completion for putting the system in condition to insure against further attacks of Constipation, and to eradicate all impurities.

CORPULENCY.

CORPULENCY.

HOW DOES IT DO THIS? The blood becomes poisoned, and m its circulation through our entire system, it carries the poison from this foul, effect on matter to every organ and tissue in the body. It is from this cause that we have "Hood Disorders," which cause the two have "Hood Disorders," which cause the understanding the proper program of the property of the proper

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Uncle." Nos. 401-404, ten complete novels. Contest closes May 1. Solutions, solvers and prize winners in June Mystic Castle. THE Not more than one prize will be awarded to

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Madge's Dictionary of Dreams
you can Interpret any Dream
a charm to Protect you from Danger.
teles how to make the Locky Dream
se; who your Future Husband or Wife
i will Marry, and what Fortune you will have;
Lover's Charm, what Fortune you will have;
or Coffee Cup; to know if your Love of a person
will be Successful in; What your Absent Husbang
hing; What Absent Husbang
hing; What Absent Husbang
hing; What Absent Husbang
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1893, by the Publishers of COMFORT.



Chinese.

The moral of all this is that we cannot be too careful in choosing the early surroundings and influences for even an orphaned woodpecker.

A CAPE COD bridegroom recently dealt the French language a terrible blow. He put up at the Flaza, the swellest of New York hotels, during the honeymoon, and being asked whether he and his bride wished table d'hote, or a la carte, replied that he would take "a little of both," but wanted "plenty of gravy."

NO doubt a man worth from fifty to a hundred millions ought to be able to say his prayers with warm feet and without profanity. But it is doubtful if the good Lord will excuse the sexton of Astor's church in New York for the beautiful bit of deception by which he sought to make the Money King comfortable on a certain very cold day.

The good sexton having overslept, was late in regulating his fires, and knowing that Astor would make it warm for him, if he did not make it warm for Astor, was terrified on seeing the Magnate's carriage drive up to the church door, while the thermometer in his pew marked but 58 degrees instead of the 72 which is the temperature insisted upon by the man of millions.

But he was ready for the emergency, and putting his thumb on the bulb, kept it there until it marked the proper degree. As Mr. Astor came in out of the blizzard a moment later, he looked at the thermometer, and with a satisfied air, laid aside his overcoat and proceeded to annonnee himself as a poor miserable sinner.

A CORRESPONDENT signing himself "Roland,"

writes from Coldwater:
"I am deeply in love with one of the belles of our town, whom I am anxious to marry, and being of a retiring disposition and unversed in such matters, I wonder if you will tell me the simplest and most successful form of proposing to a perfect lady. Would you advise me to do it in so many words? If so, how nany? If not, why not?"



ANSWER.—The best way of proposing depends upon circumstances. If the girl's father and mother are in Heaven, it is best to ask her to be your sister. If she is a perfect lady she will answer, "No, but I will be a wife to you." On the other hand, if she has a mother, the correct thing to do is to fall upon your knees before the latter, in accordance with the diagram furnished herewith, and implore her to become your mother-in-law.

In your particular case, Roland, we advise you not to do it "in so many words," but in so many years—say in fifteen.

because it is Smith, writes from Grasshopper

because it is Smith, writes from Grasshopper Gulch:

"Perhaps you will think me silly or stupid for asking such a question, but I am just dying to know what Umbah is. Is it something which a perfect lady can play without having the finger of scorn pointed at her, or is it one of those horrid card games like Euchre, over which men sacrifice their honor, their homes and their very salvation? I am a young lady with large, soft brown eyes, of pleasing appearance and a captivating figure (so my friends tell me); and while attending a party at my cousin's in Kankakee last week, a New York gent told me I would make a splendid Umbah player if my ma would only give me a chance. So I send these few lines hoping you will tell me all about it and what it is like—the Black Crook or Hamlet. Also if it has been played by anyone in tights—if so, by whom.

ANSWER.—There are few things we wouldn't do for a pair of large soft brown eyes, especially if they are owned by a young lady of pleasing appearance and captivating figure, and if you will send in the name of that N. Y. gent, we shall take pleasure in cowhiding him at your cousins's in Kankakee, or elsewhere, for he has deceived you shamefully.

In the first place, it is a condition and not a theory that confronts us, because the Umbah is an instrument of torture and not a game, or play, as the villain led you to believe. And,



secondly, you might as well try to warm the foot of a mountain with a silken slumber sock as to play the Umbah with a pair of eyes—no matter how large or soft brown they may be. The Umbah isn't built that way, as you can readily see if you will be on hand the next time a member of the United Order of Red Men or Loyal Legion of Montezuma, No. 93, attends his own funeral. It is on these sad occasions that the Umbah artist appears at his best, as he marches slowly through the streets and punctuates the solemn strains of the village band with his base notes of musical misery. When not thusly engaged in drawing tears from bereaved widows and orphans, the Umbah player gives private instructions in lung testing. He is a man of note, and has become a power in the land, for if it were not for the silver-plated halo which he spreads over the remains of the late lamented, it really wouldn't be worth while dying.

We may add in conclusion that while the

dying.

We may add in conclusion that while the Umbah has been played under all sorts of conditions and in rare negligee, it has not, up to the present writing, been played in tights, and we advise you to join the church.

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A fair correspondent whose name is withheld

A fair correspondent whose name is withheld



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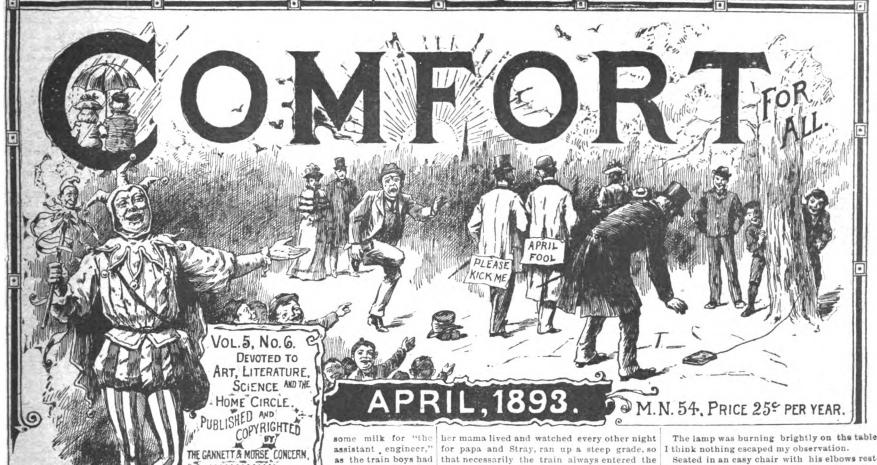




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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

The following conditions will hereafter govern the swarding of cash prizes for Nutshell Stories, and the manuscripts of such writers only as have complied with all these repurements will receive consideration. All the necessary particulars being here clearly set forth, it will be useless for anyone to seek further information or personal favors by addressing the editor, as nich letters cannot be answered.

1. Only persons who are regular yearly subscribers to "Comfort" and who send with every manuscript at least two new yearly subscribers (together with 25 cents for each subscriber so sent) may compete for the prizes.

2. All contributions must have the number of words they contain plainly noted thereon in addition to the writer's full name and address with nom de plume if derived; must be written on one side of the paper only, addressed to Editor Nutshell Story Club care of Comfort, Augusta, Mains.

3. Allstories must bestrictly original with the contributers who may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace; of city or country life, or of experiences on land or sea—but no story must contain more than 1,500 or less than 1,000 words.

4. No Manuscript will be returned under any

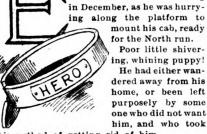
no story must contain more than 1,000 or tess than 2,000 or the third best original story will receive \$30 cash; of the second best, \$26 cash; of the third best, \$20 cash and of the fourth best, \$16 cash. Remittances will be made by check as soon as awards have been made. The publishers of "Comfort" reserve the right to purchase at their established rates any stories submitted under the foregoing offer, which failed to secure a price.

STRAY.

BY MAY PHILLIPS TATRO.

Copyright, 1893, by the Publishers of COMFORT. NGINEER FRANK BIXBEY

found him one cold morning



this method of getting rid of him. But, be that as it may, Engineer Frank's big, soft heart was touched by the little helpless thing, and without pausing to give the matter a moment's thought, picked the dog up in his arms, and stepped into the cab. A moment or two later, the engine started on its north-bound run, and a cunning little curly dog lay snug and warm, fast asleep on part of Frank's leather-cushioned seat-dreaming, no doubt, of the time when he would be large enough to

whip some other dog. As the train slowed up, preparatory to stopping at the first station North, Stray, as Frank had named him, awakened and made lively manifestations of being hungry. So when the train stopped, Frank left the engine in charge of his fireman, there being no switching to do, and walked along the platform in search of some "small

already dubbed his canine pet.

"I'll take him to Baby Bess," thought Frank, as his touch on the lever started the train on its Northward way again.

AUGUSTA, MAINE

Bess was four years old, and her delight at this new and very frisky acquisition to the little family of three, can better be imagined than described. But when Frank started the next morning for his daily run, trouble and many bitter tears were in store for little Bess. The dog would not be left behind. His whining and howls of anguish were too much for both Frank and his wife, and in spite of Bess's sobs and lamentations, off went happy Stray as fast as his fat little legs could carry him, which was not quite fast enough to keep pace with his master's long strides. So he had to be carried night and morning for a month or more, until he grew large enough to convey himself to the waiting cab. It was amusing to see him express his joy, mornings, when he caught sight of the engine. He would run around it, and caper and bark, looking up at the great iron monster as much as to say, "You and your master were my first and only friends, and I'm proud and overjoyed to see you again this morning." Then he would leap into the cab, give a wise look around to see that everything was all right, jump up-

on the seat, and sit there as grave and sober as a judge and no one could coax or drive him down until Frank was ready

WHITE FROM THE TRACK.

And such a favorite as Stray was with all the train men and agents along the line! When the train stopped at a station, he was the first off to greet old friends, and make new ones.

He never got left, either. He understood perfectly when the conductor called "All aboard." and did not wait for a second warning. He would rush for the engine and spring into the cab, standing where he could look out, and wagging his tail-his way of saying "Good-bye" to those on the platform, as long as he could see anybody.

When Stray and his master made their run after dark, Stray always seemed a little uneasy, and would sit either on Frank's lap or on the seat next to the cab window, and gaze very keenly and earnestly out into the night. If it was particularly dark he would whine now and then, and look from the blackness outside into his master's face in an inquiring way, as though asking if he thought it was all right.

One of those dark nights, when the Eastbound passenger train had been delayed and the North train had received orders to wait for it. Stray was unusually nervous and fidgety after they finally started homeward. It was in June, when Stray was two years old, and the night was moonless and cloudy. The track, within two miles of Creenfield, the boy" who, if well rewarded, would go and get | terminus of the road, where Frank's Bess and | done.

town at a slow rate of speed. On this dark night I am telling you about, they were running a little slower than usual for they had a mixed train, heavily loaded with ore, besides a number of cars of cattle and lumber.

Stray, as I said, was more keen and alert this evening than ever before, and gazed intently into the darkness ahead of the cab, never taking his eyes from the straight line of track ahead. Suddenly, as the train puffed heavily at the beginning of the up-hill grade, he gave a short, quick bark, and without a look backward, sprang out of the cab window and was lost in the darkness. A moment later his excited yelps, almost human in their efforts to be heard above the noise of the train, sounded in Frank's ears He quickly reversed the engine and whistled 'down brakes!"

Slowly the long train came to a standstill, just as Stray, with the most vigorous efforts, had succeeded in dragging from the track something white-something that sat up and was crying when Frank, who had jumped from the cab, reached the spot and took it up in his

It was Bess!

The child had wandered away "to meet papa," as she said, and becoming tired, had laid down on the track and fallen asleep. Her mother had missed her about three o'clock in the afternoon, and had aroused the neighbors, who were hunting in every direction except the right

Wise Stray; what prompted his unusual watchfulness and vigilance on that particular night? And how could his gentle brown eyes see any farther or penetrate the darkness more keenly than those of his master, who was gazing straight ahead, his eyes fixed continually on the track? Yet the latter did not see the white garments of the child, although he knew when Stray jumped from the cab, there was something to stop for.

Stray was rechristened, and the trainmen bought him a gold collar with "Hero" engraved upon it in large letters. And you may be sure that Engineer Frank Bixbey was never sorry he took pity on a stray puppy.

Hero still rides in the cab on his beloved engine, and enjoys all his honors and privileges to the fullest extent, while his proud master is duly grateful for the rescue of his only child by one of God's dumb creatures.

DR. JAKE MANNERS.

BY MRS. BERNIE BABCOCK.

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THE first place, my husband traveled, and I was

alone most of the time. In the second place, I had a croupy baby; and in the third place, just before going to bed on the night of which I write, I had

noticed in the evening paper a paragraph stating that a man, an inmate of the State Lunatic Asylum, situated a few miles of the city, had made his escape.

I had hardly touched my pillow that night when I fell asleep and slept soundly for some time, when imagining I heard my baby I suddenly awoke.

The baby was all right, but I was surprised to see the door leading from my room into the parlor, which I remembered distinctly having opened before going to bed, closed.

Through the crack under the door a bright light shone, and I could smell the fumes of tobacco smoke.

I slipped on my wrapper and went softly toward the parlor door. When I opened it I saw a sight which made my heart beat faster than the rattling in my baby's throat had ever

Seated in an easy chair with his elbows resting on the table was a man. I can see him yet as he turned his face. I think I never saw a handsomer one.

He was large and well formed, with gray hair and beard, and large brown eyes. His face wore a kindly expression, and I think if I had met him under different circumstances I would have been charmed with him.

He was smoking a pipe and reading a paper. Within reach of his hand on the table gleamed a razor blade.

How could he have entered the house? I glanced toward the front door and knew

The spring lock was turned off, as I had fastened it before going out that afternoon.

By the time these things had flashed across my mind he had become aware of my presence, and turned towards me.

"Who are you and what are you doing in my house?" I demanded, in as firm a voice as I could command.

"I am Doctor Jake Manners," said he pleasantly. "You have a croupy baby and I have come to cure it. The treatment is very simple, and if I succeed, (as I know I shall) the opera-

tion will make me famous." "You see," picking up the razor, "when the head is full of cold and the throat full of phlegm, there is no way for the air to reach the lungs. Now if the windpipe were opened so that the air might reach it from the outside, the patient would find immediate relief."

He drew his finger around his throat, almost from ear to ear, as he spoke.

"But that would kill the baby," I gasped.

"No, no, madam-no danger, and I must try." Then I knew by the strange glitter that came into his eye what manner of man I had to deal with, so I said as composedly as possible:

"Perhaps it is as you say; in fact, I think your plan is a good one, but you are in no hurry, are you?"

"Oh no," said he, again speaking pleasantly

"The baby is sleeping quietly now, I will wait until it has a choking spell." (I could only pray she would not have one and try to think of some means of escape.)

I went into my room and looked at my watch. It was half-past eleven. There was no chance of anyone coming in at that hour.

I must go for some one.

I wondered if he would let me out, and if he should, whether he would sit quietly reading after I had gone. My only chance lay in getting help, as I was sure the baby would have a rest less spell before morning.

"Doctor," said I, entering the room again, "I think your plan is a most admirable one, and I



"BUT THAT WOULD KILL THE BABY," I GASPED.

am convinced that your treatment of my child's throat will greatly relieve her; but I am wholly unprepared for the operation. If you will excuse me just a moment I will step to the next door and ask for the use of a roll of linen and cloths to absorb the blood."

He looked at me suspiciously a moment, but

evidently could detect nothing in my words or looks that would lead him to suppose I did not mean what I said, so he bade me go and hurry

I did not need this warning. After taking the back door key, to be used in case he locked the front door after me, I did hurry. I think I flew rather than ran as soon as I got outside the gate, for I did not know what he might be doing even then.

I had no difficulty in rousing my neighbors. The door was only partly opened, but I bolted in, shutting it behind me.

You can imagine their surprise-the wife in bed, the husband standing behind the door in his night-clothes.

It makes me laugh now to think of it, but it was no laughing matter then.

was no laughing matter then.

I hardly waited to catch my breath before I told them my home and baby were in possession of a madman, and begged them for heaven's sake to help me.

Before I had finished telling them this I heard my baby scream.

My blood froze in my veins. Could it be that the darling had wakened and called for "mama" and that he had gone to it with that glittering razor?

I sprang up—I was in bed. There sat my

and that he had gone to it with that glittering razor?

I sprang up—I was in bed. There sat my baby beside me crying for water. I gave her a drink; then I rubbed my eyes and looked around—toward the door going into the parlor. It was open as I had left it.

I got out of bed, turned up the light and went into the parlor.
The lamp was out. The chair was gone from the table side. The razor and paper had also disappeared.

I tried the front door. It was securely bolted. I sniffed the air for the scent of tobacco smoke but could detect none.
I glanced into each of the four corners of the room, but no man was hiding there.
Dr. Jake Manners had disappeared as mysteriously as he had come.

Black Miguel's Conversion.

BY ZACK Z. ZOXZY.

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COOLEST man I ever saw I met in one of the low saloons of Santa Fe, some twenty years ago. I shudder even now when I recall the deed I saw kim do and think of the

manner in which he did it. The hour was near midnight. The saloon was crowded with rough men; brawny, finelooking fellows, but with passions almost as

ficrce and untamed as Bengal tigers. The air was thick with the fumes of tobacco and heavy with the odors of stale liquor. The lamps shone red through the murky atmosphere and but dimly lighted the features of the men seated in the far corners of the room. There was the chink, chink of glasses and the gurgling sounds of flowing liquor, as the fiery fluids of the bar were poured down hot throats to kindle the hot blood of these passionate men.

Before the bar, with one elbow leaning lightly upon the rude counter, slowly sipping a glass of whiskey, stood a tall, broad-shouldered man. I knew the man at a glance. The lion's mane of long coal-black hair falling gracefully over the shoulders, the piercing black eyes that somehow always made me think of the eyes of the deadly cobra, the dark handsome face, the tall athletic frame. Yes, I knew them well and I, in common with every other man and woman in Santa Fe, knew that their presence boded death to someone, just as surely as though a hungry tiger prowled about the streets of the city.

Black Miguel, for thus was the man at the bar called, set the emptied glass down. "Fill 'er up again," he commanded and the bar-keeper made haste to obey. Then lifting the glass high in his left hand, while his right toyed suggestively with the butt of one of his revolvers, he summoned every man in the room to drink to his health and long life.

The bronzed and bearded men crowded quickly for ward. The glasses were filled; but before they were lifted to the lips Black Miguel glanced about to see if all had obeyed his command. Every occupant of the room stood at the bar, glass in hand, save one, and he, a mere youth with the bloom of roses on his cheeks, sat near one of the lamps quietly reading a

My heart jumped to my throat at the sight. He looked so innocent and seemed so totally unaware of his danger, of what it meant to offend such a man as Black Miguel.

The glint in Black Miguel's eyes brightened v he caught sight of the youth and his dark cheeks flushed. In a voice of thunder he repeated his command, while his right hand half drew the revolver

I wondered at his giving the command again. It was his custom to let his revolver speak for him the second time.

The youth lifted his eyes from off his letter just long enough to say quietly: "Thank you, sir. I never drink intoxicating liquors," and then, as quietly, he resumed his reading.

Such an answer the bravest man in the room, and as brave men as ever lived were there, would not have cared to make. Yet not a rose changed its tint in the youth's fair cheeks, and he seemed utterly

nave cared to make. Yet not a rose changed its tint in the youth's fair cheeks, and he seemed utterly unconscious of the mortal affront contained in his refusal to drink to the health and long life of the man at the bar.

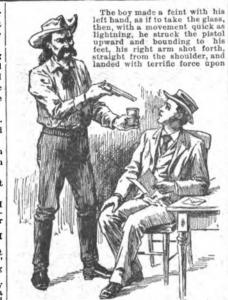
I saw Black Miguel's face pale and I knew by the wicked look in his eyes that the reply of the boy, for he looked but little more than a boy, had aroused the sleeping devil within him.

He lowered the glass of whiskey, but still holding it in his hand and drawing his revolver, strode across the room to the side of the boy.

Not a man offered to interfere, though many a rough hand besides my own crept close to the butt of a revolver. I think all felt, as I felt, that the lad could not be so mad as to refuse a second invitation to drink. For never yet had a man attempted to thwart Black Miguel and lived.

The youth laid his letter down and, shifting slightly his position, turned the blue of his eyes full upon Black Miguel. Otherwise, none would have supposed from his looks or acts that the doings of the man concerned him in the least.

"Will yer swall'r this liker; or will yer wait tu drink o' th' devil's brewin' when yer git tu hell?" Black Miguel said, extending the glass and holding the cocked pistol within six inches of the youth's head.



Black Miguel's forehead. The pistol went off harmlessly into the air and the man was hurled senseless to the floor, as though he had been struck by a battering-ram.

Without uttering a word and with scarcely a perceptible deepening of the red on his cheeks, the youth stood watching the fallen man.

Black Miguel lay senseless, it might be for the space of a minute, then he slowly staggered to his feet and stood staring at the boy, not offering to harm him, though he still held his revolver in his hand. I think a more astonished man than he was at that moment never lived.

The youth, as a pleasant smile lighted up his round boyish face, extended his hand to Black Miguel and said: "My friend, pardon me for declining to drink with you. I could not do it. Shake and let us be friends. I need your help."

Black Miguel hesitated for a moment, then gripped the proffered hand and shook it with true western heartiness.

Well, the boy was a divinity student and the champion athlete of a leading New England college off on a missionary vacation trip and he wanted Black Miguel to help him with his meetings.

Did he do it?

Yes; and was converted the first night and to-day not a man in all that section of country is more honored and respected than this same once notorious desperado, Black Miguel.

"If Mr. T. Lockwood, who sent us a story, 'An Adventure in California,' will send his address to the Boston office of COMPORT, 228 Devonshire St., he will hear of something to his advantage."

Great-Grandpa's Shoe Buckles.

BY VIRGINIA MARY RING.

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TO MYNE derely beloved daughter Elizabeth I do hereby Bequeathe, in addition to what I have already given Her, my far-famed Shoe-Buckles, the same that be sett with the

Cousin Lenore and I sat on the floor of Grandmother Lee's garret, with Great-Grandfather Haven's will before us. We had discovered it amongst a lot of letters and documents of a bygone age in an old trunk

pushed away back under the eaves.

"Where do you suppose those 'far-famed shoebuckles' are now?" asked Lenore, with a laugh.

buckles' are now?" asked Lenore, with a laugh.

"And who was 'my daughter Elizabeth'?" I answered, Yaukee-fashion.

"Oh, some dead and gone female. Why noDorothy! Grandma Lee's name is Elizabeth!"

"Why, of course! How stupid of us! I'll wager
there's a story connected with those shoe-buckles.
Let's ask Grandma to tell it to us."

No sooner said than done, for what could be nicer
on a rainy day in the country than a tale of Grandma's girlhood.

Down the garret stairs we flew, and burst into the
sitting-room, startling Grandma from her placid
doze.

Down the garret stairs we flew, and burst into the sitting-room, startling Grandma from her placid doze.

"Well, lassies, what now?"

"Oh Grandma, we want—" (from Lenore). "to know—" (from me), "the story of—" (broke in Len), (both together), "Great-Grandpa's shoe-buckles!"

For a moment Grandma looked dazed, so we laughingly quieted down, and I explained how we'd found her father's will, and asked her to tell us about the shoe-buckles he had left her.

"Well, well, lassies, dearie me! how time does go, to be sure! Why, my dearies, those buckles I'd forgotten all about; still they were connected with the one great sorrow of my childhood," Grandma wiped her spectacles, and went on, "You probably never heard tell of my brother Guy? No?" as we shook our heads. "Well, he was my idol, but I suppose he was a wild ungovernable lad. Father was too stern, and mother too severe, and they made no allowance for Guy's excitable nature. While father lived, he kept him under a certain restraint, but after his death, Guy went loose. In the first place, father left the bulk of his property to me, indisputably, while the bare pittance he left Guy was to be held by mother 'till Guy was twenty-three. Being two years older than I, Guy naturally took it hard, and when I was only fifteen, two years after father's death, he broke my heart by running away, taking with him a large sum of ready money, and the famous shoe-buckles."



COUSIN LENORE AND I SAT ON THE FLOOR WITH GREAT-GRANDFATHER HAVEN'S WILL BEFORE US.

"Why famous, Grandma?" asked Lenore. "Well, on account of their value for one thing, and ecause they were given to your Great-Grandfather by his friend Washington."

"Why, not Gen. Washington?"
"The same. He and father were army-comrades, and when the Revolution closed he gave those shoe-buckles to father as a friendly token."
"But what became of your brother, Grandma?" I

"We never heard from him again," said Grandma, with a sigh. ',Mother was sternly unforgiving, and never allowed his name to be spoken. Perhaps he died soon after; or maybe he lived to be an old man. That was seventy-two years ago, and I've not got over it yet."

over it yet."

"Do you suppose he sold the buckles?"said Lenore.

"Oh, I don't know, dearie. He was a sad, sad lad, I fear, but it seems to me that he had enough family pride to make him keep the buckles, unless he was in a very bitter strait; but one can't tell," and Grandma fell into a retrospect, which at last Lenore broke.

"Grandma, can you describe those famous buckles?"

"Grandma, can you describe those famous buckles?"
The buckles?" said Grandma, starting up. "Oh,
they were beautiful ones. Three inches wide, and an
inch and a half the other way. Across the top, were
the letters, in tiny diamonds, 'W. to H.'—Washington
to Haven. The lower half was set with very queer
stones, of many tints, not clear, like diamonds, but
sort o' milky. I've never seen any other gems like
them. They came from India. The buckles themselves were of purest silver," and Grandma leaned
back in her chair with such a far-away look in her
eyes, that we didn't disturb her again, but sat in the
ruddy glow of the firelight taking in low tones of
the famous buckles, and guessing at their whereabouts.

Five months later Lenore was visiting a school friend, and I was at home, when one day I received the following astonishing letter from her.

Five months later Lenore was visiting a school friend, and I was at home, when one day I received the following astonishing letter from her.

"My sweetest Dorothy:
I've found Great-Grandpa Haven's far-famed shoebuckles! It was at a fancy-dress ball, and I had been in the ball-room but a short time, when I observed some queer shining ornaments on the shoulders of a girl robed in 'ye ancient gown.' On getting near enough to examine them, I saw, lo! the very buckles of Washington renown! I knew them at once! I went to the young lady, and excusing myself, explained my great interest in her shoulder ornaments. She fell in with my-excitement at once, and told me her brother had bought them for her at a quaint little shop on a side street. She was so interested in my story that she herself went with me thenext morning to the shop in question, and we besieged the proprietor. 'Yes, indeed,' he said, he remembered how he came into possession of the buckles. A young girl, very shabbily dressed, had brought them to him to sell over a year ago. The understanding was, that he should keep them out of sight of his customers for four months, and give her a chance to buy them back. If she didn't return during that time, he was to dispose of them as he chose. And so a couple of weeks previous he had sold them to the young lady's brother. No, he knew nothing of the girl's whereaboute: he'd never seen her since.

"Disappointed, we left, after his promising to let me know at once, if by any chance he should run across her. Three days later, I got a note from him saying the girl had called, with a faint hope that he might still have the buckles. He told her they were gone, but he knew where, and appointed the next day but one for her return. We were on hand, and for five years she has been in a clothing-house, working for the merest pittance. I didn't even wait to hear from Papa, but took her with me at once, and as soon as Papa got my letter, he came on, and says she is to live with us always. Next week we are going to Grandma Lee's

AN OFFER OF \$5,000.

AN OFFER OF \$5,000.

In response to many letters in regard to the prizes offered by Comport for short stories, some of which are inclined to throw doubt upon the fact that such prices are freely paid, we wish to state that every offer made in this paper is genuine and is honestly carried out. We will pay \$5,000 to anyone who can prove the contrary. It must be remembered that thousands of people are competing for these prizes, oi tis not a matter for surprise that many subscribers out of the million and a quarter who receive COMPORT regularly should be disappointed and should not personally know the prize winners. Many subscribers have been made suspicious of such offers by discovering that similar offers from other concerns are bogus. Comport is not in that class.

"August Flower"

I had been troubled five months with Dyspepsia. I had a fullness after eating, and a heavy load in the pit of my stomach. Sometimes a deathly sickness would overtake me. I was working for Thomas McHenry, Druggist, Allegheny City, Pa., in whose employ I had been for seven years. I used August Flower for two weeks. I was relieved of all trouble. I can now eat things I dared not touch before. I have gained twenty pounds since my recovery. J. D. Cox, Allegheny, Pa. @



Prof. W. H. Peeke, who makes a specialty of Epilepsy, has without doubt treated and cured more cases than any living Physician; his success is astonishing. We have heard of cases of 20 years' standing cured by him. He publishes a valuable work on this disease which he sends with a large bottle of his absolute cure, free to any sufferer who may send their Post Office and Express address. We advise anyone wishing a cure to address. Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F. D., 4 Cedar St., New York.

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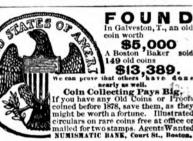
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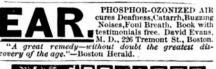
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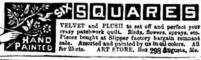
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OR ages perhaps the most interesting things about Easter month are the festal celebrations. Children, however, care hold old games. Eggs enter largely into Easter rites, and the reason for this is that the egg is the emblem of future life and the resurrection. Games are played with the colored Easter eggs by striking them against one another, and by pricking them—the latter being somewhat out of date since the introduction of china eggs. For the love of a joke, boys used to obtain these china eggs and deceive their companions when they tried to prick them.

Children, don't forget the poor; you can afford to give away an egg or two to those who can't afford such luxuries. How glad one of Comfort's editors must have been to fill so many hearts with joy at a kindergarten Easter festival, of which he told you in the March number. Easter is the time to open your hearts a bit wider than usual.

About 2,500 years ago the Pagans had a god.

About 2,500 years ago the Pagans had a goddess called Ostara or Eastre, which means the morning of the East, and to them the springtime was the beginning of the year. Old customs which those rude people enjoyed, became the customs of the civilized world. At all events it is well for us that religious ideas are so plentiful, because it makes people better and Easter is always a reminder of the pleasant Easters of the past. So we venerate the customs of our fathers.

ALL FOOL'S DAY.

ASI told you, children, last month, the first day of April has always been all fool's day and the reason was given also. But don't take too much advantage of the day, don't make enemies by too severe joking. No hot horse-shoes for unsuspecting men to burn their hand with, non bricks covered over by hats, for people to kick. If you tie thread to pennies conceal the thread, for on April 1st, eyes are usually wide open and the thread may be stepped on and the penny picked up. Don't put a big sign on a man's back with "For Sale" on it—it makes him angry; you would not like it. There are lots of ways to fool folks, all harmless. Try those which you would like, or not dislike, if tried on you. tried on you. What, a puzzle?

Well, here is a capital one, old, but good. It

TANGLED SCISSORS.

TANGLED SCISSORS.

THE idea is to take a heavy cord and fasten it to the scissors, as in the picture. Both ends must be held by you, Mary, while I disentangle, or release the scissors, without your letting go of the cord ends. You can do it, if you try. It puzzles old heads, so you must be very patient.

But this month I will not give you any more puzzles, or games. Instead, I will tell you a story, a story of myself, and what I saw, last spring, when I went forth into the fields to make pictures of Nature, just as she woke from the sleep of winter.

How few know the trials of an artist! In Europe, where art is old and artists are recognized and respected, the sight of one of them, sketching in the fields, on the road-side, in the streets, on the beach, or anywhere, is a common thing and calls for no comment from the passer-by. But in some parts of this country an artist is a strange creature, a curiosity that does nothing for a living.

Often he sets up his easel and umbrella in

often he sets up his easel and umbrella in a field and commences to paint, when suddenly, down comes the farmer who informs him that "he don't want his rocks or fences cluttered up with advertisements of pills and medicines," and the artist sometimes has hard work in making him believe that such an idea never entered his head, and that he would be the l'ast person in the world to do such a thing. And the next pasture he enters, he may be driven out by a big dog.

But I think the waster be getting more used to artists and one has less trouble than formerly. To those who are obliged to be pent up in studios all winter, the coming of spring is welcomed with delight, and early in the season they roam affeld, to catch the colors of the spring grass and foliage.

Dict you ever think, children, what a beautiful color the young grass really has?

Did you ever think, children, what a beauti-

Well, I started at early morning, and found a fine place in a pasture, where there were some stone walls. a long stretch of ground and hills in the distance. I set up my easel, and as the sun was hot. I put up my umbrella, which has a long handle with a pointed end which sticks in the ground. When I got my paints all ready, the canvas on the easel and the view I wanted wall. As he advanced towards me, I kept at work putting away my paints, fixing and folding up my easel and umbrella, and paid no attention to the stranger. My sketch lay on the

sooner had I started the drawing and was getting down to earnest work when up jumped a goat on a rock a dozen yards from me. I knew enough to let the creature stay where he was, until he should understand that I had no evil designs on him, and after a while he went away into the fields near the stone wall, looking at me. So on I worked through the day, stopping at noon for a hasty lunch, but all absorbed in my task, and anxious to complete it before the sun declined or came near the hills. I was not conscious of the approach of an uninvited guest, who had crept up behind me. I did not hear his step, nor did he give me the least idea that he was intending to be neighborly, until I heard a low, deep bellow that made my hair stand on end for a second. I quickly turned about and there saw, a hundred feet away, a great bull. He was pawing the earth and lowering his head in such a way that I felt he meant business. And true enough he did, for the moment my eyes caught his, he dashed forward with a terrible roar. So sudden was the whole affair that I scarce knew



what to do, and in my confusion I grabbed my umbrella, as my only protection, and away I scooted for the stone wall, with Mr. Bull in hot pursuit. Owing to the fact that I had long legs, and the wall was not far distant, I eluded the onslaught of the bull and stood safe on the other side of the wall. He eyed me savagely for a time, and then strolled off. After a while, I went back to my work. A half-hour went by and I had soon made up for lost time. It was now three o'clock and I was more than three-quarters through. I calculated that I could finish it by four, if nothing interfered with me, and while so meditating, and meanwhile mixing upon my palette some more paint, I did not notice a change in the landscape. Upon raising my eyes there stood about fifty yards away, a row of cows, just appearing above a



rise in the field. After assuring myself that Mr. Bull was not one of the visitors. I settled down to work again, for cows and I are good friends and they never molest me.

In less than half an hour these curious cows were nibbling the short new grass all around me, and so gentle were they that I, once in a while, stopped in my work, to chat with them. There were two very small ones who seemed separately interested in my moyement. There were two very small ones who especially interested in my movements.



The sun was getting down behind the hills, and I could hear the frogs in a little pond not far away setting up their late afternoon music. And as I wanted a study of these chaps. I ventured over by the water, and gave them my ear as an audience. I stood there ten minutes before any one of them appeared, and as I was ready with my brush I just managed to sketch in their outlines, not caring for color or details. They seemed glad to see me, for they blinked, and gazed in silent admiration at me; possibly they thought it very fine, that they were "having their pictures took."



grass and in a moment or two the little man stood beside it looking at it, and then at the scene which I had been studying all day. At last he remarked, "I am the village divine and am fond of Nature. I think your picture excellent, and very cleverly done. I hope when you are in this neighborhood again you will call at the parsonage. I would like to show you my own work in that line."

This to me, was a very delightful ending of my first spring sketching trip last year, and I thanked the queer, but bright little man for his goodness. So we walked and talked way to the depot, where we parted the best of friends

And by the time he reached home even Uncle Charlie was ready to go to bed, and—children, look at the clock! Off with you all, then, to Slumberland. Goodnight, my dears,

night, my dears, Uncle Charlie.

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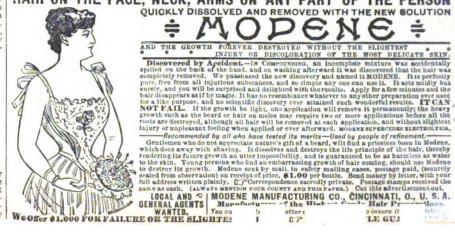


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BY ELIZABETH SARGENT CURTIS.

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DOES not look much like
Spring just this minute in
the North, at all events,
but it will be but a few
days before the snow will
begin to give way to the
sun, there will be
the twitter of returning birds, and the
air will, as the children say, "smell of
Spring."

Who does not
know that delightful
earthy odor? It is
one of the most
grateful of perfumes, for it is full
of the promise of
sunshine and
warmth and revivication.

Those of you who DOES not look much like

warmth and revivication.
Those of you who
have homes in the
South and on the
Pacific slope have
no idea of what the
first whiff of ground
smell means to those
who live in the
North where the
snow covers the

North where the snow covers the ground for months at a time every year. It means freedom from an icy bondage; the cheerful sight "of green things growing" in places that have been buried in snow drifts for weeks; it means new life. To the house-keeper the early spring days are busy ones.

ones.

There is so much to do to clear away after the winter and get herself and her house ready for the hot weather that

will come in a short time.

Spring cleaning means something more than the mere washing of paint and windows and putting away of winter clothing; it means the sanitary cleaning means something more than the mere washing of paint and windows and putting away of winter clothing; it means the sanitary cleaning of every part of the house, of which, by the way, the cellar is the starting point, and also the most important.

The first work of the Spring for the careful housewife should be the thorough cleansing and clearing of her cellar.

Just as early as may be the banking which has been put up for winter protection should be taken down, the windows thrown open during the mid-day, and, so far as possible, everything removed.

The walls should be carefully brushed down, and the floor swept.

It is a good thing to whitewash the walls every Spring, as the lime will act as a disinfectant and destroy any germs which may have found lodgment there.

Even if there has been no illness in the family this should be done, and more especially if vegetables have been kept in the cellar, for there is nothing in nature which will give out poison germs as readily as over-ripe or decaying vegetables.

Physicians say that in the times when these things were not so well understood as they now are, many cases of Spring sickness, and of fevers were, no doubt, traceable directly to the cellars of the houses.

For, you see, wise and old as the world thinks its, it is only just now learning the alphabet of sanitary science.

Yet so important is this new science considered, especially for women, that most of the girl's colleges are establishing chairs of domestic science. And in at least one girl's préparatory school, the Lasell Seminary at Auburndale, Massachusetts, sanitary housekeeping is regularly taught.

I know that a great many people are very sceptical regarding the practical use of such study, claiming that it cannot be taught, only learned by experience.

sceptical regarding the practical use of such study, claiming that it cannot be taught, only learned by experience.

Now I want to give you an illustration of the extreme practicability of this new branch of school work.

A wealthy gentleman built a magnificent house on Commonwealth Avenue, the finest street in Boston. When the family moved in it was discovered that there was something the matter with the drainage.

It was provoking, for the most modern applicances had been used in plumbing, and no expense had been spared. The young daughter of the house had been a pupil at Lasell. She had taken great interest in the sanitary work of her class, and had been a careful and enthusianties student. Without calling in any outside aid, she made the necessary examinations, applied the proper tests, and discovered where the trouble lay, and was able to direct the needed alterations.

Her father was the proudest man in Boston, and he considered his daughter's achievement most remarkable, and indeed it was.

It is coming to be conceded every day that women should be well up in sanitary knowledge, since the care of the home and its inmakes devolves so much upon them. And no woman can afford to be ignorant of the subject.

The safest thing is to have a measuring cup such as is illustrated here. This is made to hold exactly half a pint, and is sub-divided into half, quarters as the case of the finest sub-divided into half, quarters and thirds. So standard has this cup become that it is now kept on ease that the kitchen furnishing houses, and costs but a few cents. Every housekeeper should have one, as she will find it so much easier to obtain accurate measurentions.

And while I am on the subject of kitchen furnishings, I want to speak a w or d about the utensishing for mixing, especially batters and doughs.

It the first place they should always be mixed in earthern ware, and never in metal. The best mixing bowls are those which have a lip at one side out of which the both in white and yellow ware, and not cost any more tha

The Society for Home Study whose headquarters are in Boston, with students all over the country, makes this one of its prominent branches, and its examinations are most thorough and exhaustive. It is one of the cases joined proves the truth the adage that "An purposes, while the perforated ones are the

ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." The kind of knowledge which will keep sickness and disease at a distance is as valuable as that which knows how to cope with it when it does appear, and this is what is taught.

In the light of present conditions housekeeping is advanced to the dignity of a profession, and one, too, which requires both brains and judgment. It cannot be lightly regarded as of little account, it comes too near the vital life of every human being. The happiness or misery of all humanity is bound up in it.

Does it seem

Does it seem absurd to think of cleaning a cellar on a scientific basis? I don't believe it will when you stop and con-



I don't believe it will when you stop and consider it seriously.

I want to emphasize again what I already have said many times, and that is that the elder house-mothers of Comfort must bear with me if I very often say things which they know perfectly well, and remember that in this large family of ours, which is scattered from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the St. Lawrence to the Gulf of Mexico, yes and even outside these limits, there are thousands of young wives who are just beginning the family life, and to whom all which is so familiar to us older ones is new. Direction is what these young women need, and I only hope I may be able to give it to them.

I want just here to say something about judgment a seriof shetrectice I whicheaped here

Direction is what these young women need, and I only hope I may be able to give it to them. I want just here to say something about judgment, a sort of abstraction of which some house-keepers talk a great deal.

There is nothing so exasperating and so hopeless as to have anyone reply in answer to some question which calls for an arbitrary answer:

"Oh, use your judgment."

If the questioner had possessed the knowledge which would have made judgment possible, she would not have asked the question. She would not have been compelled to.

Judgment is knowledge born of experience. If a person has had no experience, she can have no judgment, certainly not in cooking.

No doubt you have all heard of the woman who was praised for a certain kind of cake which she made remarkably well, and was asked for the rule.

"Well," she said, "I take butter and sugar—"
"How much?" was the query.

"Well, I don't just know, what I think I will need. I use my judgment. Then I take eggs—"
"But how many?"

"Oh, I can't say, I use my judgment. Sometimes the eggs are little, and sometimes they are big. When they're little I use more, and when they're big I don't use so many. It's all accordin'."

"Do you mean to say you don't have any rule?"

accordin'."
"Do you mean to say you don't have any rule?"
"Well yes, I



"Do you mean to say you don't have any rule?"

"Well yes, I suppose I have one but I use my judgment."

What if the novice tried to follow these directions.

Mixing bowl. Suppose I have one but I use my judgment."

What if the novice tried to follow these directions. Where would she and her cake come out?

After all the only safe road to absolute success is positive accuracy. Have a rule and follow it exactly Make it arbritrary. If things don't come right then it is the fault of the rule and not your own.

But there is little to fear if you are exact. There is one very important fact to be remembered, however, and that is, that there must be an absolute scale of measurements. Most rules for cake making, for instance, use the cup as a standard of measures of quantity. To the novice in cooking a cup is a cup, whether it is a large coffee cup, or a small afterdinner cup, or any thing between.

The standard cup is one which holds half a pint. Remembering that, the young house-keeper will have no trouble with the proportions of her rule.

The safest thing is to have a measuring cup such as is illustrated here. This is made to

sils for mixing, especially outers and doughs.

In the first place they should always be mixed in earthern ware, and never in metal. The best mixing bowls are those which have a lip at one side out of which the batter can be poured. These come both in white and yellow ware, and do not cost any more than the plain heavy bowls without the lip. Then the mixing should always be done with a wooden spoon. No metal should be allowed to touch a batter. Every kitchen should have a set of wooden spoons, of

best to use in mixing cake batters. They admit the air, and make it light much more quickly than the ordinary spoon.

Of course all housekeepers have an egg-beater. It seems almost superfluous to speak about them, but you know every one has a theory about the use of articles, and I am not exempt; although I am bound to say, that in this case my "theory" is born of experience.

this case my "theory" is born of experience.

I think that every housekeeper needs two of these useful appliances. A Dover egg-beater which is unequalled for general use, and the French whisk, a bundle of stiff wires for use in making meringues, and for whipping the whites of the eggs, when they are beaten separately from the yolks, in making those kinds of cake where great care in beating is required.

they are beaten separately from the yolks, in making those kinds of cake where great care in beating is required.

The Dover beats to a smoothness which nothing else gives, but it will not make the volume and frothiness which is needed in beating up the whites of the eggs.

If any of the Comfort girls are making up lists of the things which they are going to need in a near future put the little things which I have mentioned in this article, as a mong the "must-haves." They are none of them expensive, and they will save the cost of themselves many times in the success they will insure in cooking. With proper appliances to work with, good rules to follow, and a level head with brains in it, a girl is well equipped for her start in life as a housekeeper, provided, at the same time she has a proper respect for her new calling.

But the girl with brains always has that.

Before we leave the subject of kitchen utensils, I must call special attention to the new patent Christy bread-knives, which come in sets of three. There are, in the set, a bread-knife a cake-knife and a parer. An illustration is given here of the first. Similar carvers are also made. The peculiar advantage of the bread and cake-knives lie in the fact that they have a curved instead of a straight, sharp edge, which will readily cut hot loaves without crumbling, or leaving the slices in that "soggy" state which every cook deplores but has, heretofore, found no way of preventing. The set may be found at most of the hard-ware or kitchenfurnishing stores; and although they are made of excellent steel, they are exceedingly reasonable in price.

We hear a great deal about the excellence of French cooking. This is due to the

We hear a great deal about the excellence of French cooking. This is due to the use of herbs making a combination of flavors, so delicate, that no one is predominant but all are equal in force and quality.

Among the herbs in most common in most common use are Sage, Sweet Marjoram, and Summer Savory. To these should be added Parsley, Thyme, Chives, Chervil, Tarragon, Sweet Basil, and Rue. These can Jusually be bought at the grocers, but the surest way of having them pure, is to raise them yourself.

Even the woman

the surest way of having them pure, is to raise them yourself.

Even the woman who lives in the city and has only a small plot of ground at the back of her house, can raise all the herbs she needs for the year's use. With the exception of Tarragon and Chives, which are grown from the erot and are perennial, these herbs are raised from the seed, which should be planted every. Spring about the middle of May. The soil should be rich and light, and the seeds planted in drills about two inches apart. The same care should be exercised in keeping the beds free from weeds that would be given the flower garden, and the task is no more burdensome.

The herbs should be gathered when they are in blossom, carefully dried, and put away in a dark place protected from the air. When you wish to use them, take as many of the leaves as you think will make the quantity required, rub them to a powder, and sift them through a fine wire strainer. You will find that you will need a smaller quantity, by nearly one half, of her bs thus grown and prepared, than of those which you purchase.

Chives may be kept growing from year to year.

This is a fine green herb growing in tufts like rich succulent grass, having a delicate flavor like onion. It is not dried but is used fresh in salads, which are mixed with French dressing.

Chervil and Tarragon are specially nice in soups and French Whisk

ing. Chervil and Tarragon are specially nice in soups and FRENCH WHISK sauces, and also for flavoring vinegar.

Until one is accustomed to the use of these flavors it is as well to make the proportions accurately, by rule

The following is a combination recommended by Gouffee, formerly the French cook to the Queen of England, and which without doubt is one of the most satisfactory ever published.

Two ounces of Parsley.
" " " Summer Savory.
" " Sweet Marjoram.
" " Thyme.
One " " Lemon peel.
" " Sweet Basil

These should be pounded and sifted together, in order to mix properly, and kept in a tightly corked bottle, to be used for flavoring soups, stews, sauce, and hashes.

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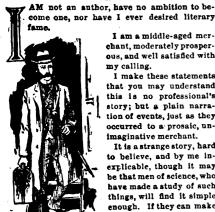
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BY ZACK Z. ZOXZY.

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I am a middle-aged mer chant, moderately prosperous, and well satisfied with

my calling. I make these statements that you may understand this is no professional's story; but a plain narration of events, just as they occurred to a prosaic, un imaginative merchant.

It is a strange story, hard to believe, and by me inexplicable, though it may be that men of science, who have made a study of such things, will find it simple enough. If they can make its mystery plain I wish they would; for, like a night-mare, it presses heavily upon my soul.

I became acquainted with Winfred Wilton in rather a peculiar manner. I had just stepped off the train at the little city of K-, lying on the western shore of Lake Michigan, and had taken, perhaps, six steps toward the waiting-room door, when a young man advanced and hesitatingly held out his hand.

"I don't know but what I am making a big blun-der," he said, "but your face and form look so familiar that it seems as if I must know you; though, for the life of me, I cannot now recall your name.

"My dear fellow," I replied, giving his proffered hand a hearty shake and closely scrutinizing his face—a strange face to me—"I am quite sure we have never met before. However, your mistake is a com mon one. I, myself, have made one similar to it at least a dozen times."

"But," the young man continued, while the look of perplexity deepened on his countenance, "it does not seem possible I can be mistaken. The tone of your voice, the play of your features, why, the very clasp of your hand, come to me like the music of a wellknown song. I must have known you somehow sometime. Strange, I cannot call your name! Mem

Again I examined the young man's form and features carefully. If I was ever positive of anything I was positive that I now looked upon him for the first time.

"Perhaps," I answered ""

first time.

"Perhaps," I answered, "if I introduce myself the difficulty will vanish. My name is Howard H. Hamiton: business, retailer of dry goods; location, new York city. I am here for a two weeks' vacation, and trust you will find me as pleasant a companion as you would the friend whom you fancy I so closely read to the companion of the co

you would the friend whom you fancy I so closely resemble."
A look of keen disappointment came into the young man's face. "I was so sure," he said, apologetically, "that you were a dear friend, whose name had unstrunately slipped my mind, or I should never have wentured to approach you thus. Even now you are white a half-remembered dream and, though your offname is certainly a strange one to me, I still feel as if I must have known you sometime, somewhere."
"Oposibly," I replied, with a laugh, "in some dissamt age we were boon companions; but I am sure this is the first time you have felt the clasp of my hand in this present life. Come with me to my hotel and let us compare notes. I think you will find I am right. At any rate I want to become better acquainted with one to whom I seem to be united in such a mysterious manner."

He went with me to the hotel and there we discovered that neither, until that day, had been within a hundred miles of the other.

After this odd fashion I came to know Winfred Wilton.

Another distinct of the other.

After this odd fashion I came to know Winfred Wilton.

Winfred Wilton possessed a fascinating personality. Beautiful he was not. The height and fulness of his forchead was out of proportion to the rest of his face. His shoulders sloped downward too much and his tall frame was badly put together. But his eyes were wonderful! Large, clear and as blue as the skies in June—and as unfathomable—they looked forth wistfully from deep-set sockets. I cannot describe the baffing mystery of those globes of blue, nor the aweet charm that dwelt within them. As a bit of steel to a magnet, my soul responded to their glances. He was a charming conversationalist. His voice was soft and sweetly modulated; and his words came like swift winged messengers of the soul, clothed in beauty and in majesty. He was haunted with memories, shadows, dreams—I know not what to call them—of things he could by no possibility have known in this life. But, why attempt to portray his character! Its subtle charm and mystery are beyond my gift of words.

Another strange thing about Winfred Wilton was the intimate knowledge he displayed of myself. Had he been my heart-friend for years he could not have better understood the peculiarities of my mind. I do not attempt to account for this; though, if you read to the end, you will find an explanation set down. However, the explanation is none of my making—but of that in its place.

From the moment of our meeting we were fast Iriends and much of the daylight of that first week we spent in each other's company. Then came an awful event—but it is needful that I write of this more at length.

II.

awful event—but it is needful that I write or this more at length.

II.

I came on Saturday. The next Saturday Wilton and I spent together on the shores of the lake. The day was cloudless and quiet; but oppressively hot. We sought the sheltering shade of an oak-crowned hill and there, stretching ourselves out upon the grassy turf, talked and dreamed the day away. The low murmurings of the lake fell in mournful cadence upon our cars. There was the sound of tears in the splash, splash of its waves; as though they were keeping time to a low,sadrequien, too soft and gentle for mortal ears to hear. At least that is the way Wilton put it, and I felt that he had given tongue to my feelings.

I can never forget our conversation that day. We talked of birth, of life, and of death.

Wilton's views were peculiar. The body is born and dies; but the soul, the real life, knows no creation, no annihilation. The earth is but one of many soul-homes, the body but a perishable soul-house, and birth and death but the souls moving-time. The life we knew at present was but one of many lives we had lived in various bodies, times, countries, or even worlds. Death opened vistas of eternal progress; not of eternal happiness or eternal misery. The soul's march was upward; never downward. What we call death came when the soul had outgrown its present body and needed different environments to continue its proper growth. Sometimes, some souls, retained faint remembrances of their past lives. A face, a bit of scenery; or, it might be, a picture or spoken words had a familiar look or sound. Where had they been seen or heard? Certainly not in this life! They were the dimly remembered experiences of a past existence. He believed that he had known and loved me during a life that had now gone. Where, or when, or under what etroumstances he could not tell. He only knew that he had cared for me somewhere, sometime, as only a dear friend could. Such, briefly stated, were some of the peculiar views of Winfred Wilton.

At the time they were uttered th

At the time they were uttered they made but little impression upon me. Dreams, I then thought them.

Carlo Maria

Now, I know not what to think. I knew that Death had long sat enthroned in Wilton's heart, with black hands fingering his throbbing life, and I knew that Wilton knew this; and I thought these strange fancies were the morbid children of a too prolonged contemplation of this ever present King of Terrors. But now, after what has happened, I dare not call them dreams; I can only say, what I said before, I know not what to think of them.

Without asking it Wilton won my confidence; and, with the sound of the sighing lake in our ears, I told him the story of my life.

Man is the child of affliction. Above the heads of all flutter the black wings of sorrow. When a boy I loved a good and beautiful girl. When I became a man I wed her; and for a year life was tinted with the rainbow colors of our love. Then the shadow of the black wings fell upon us; death came and my dear one left me. Ah, that was twenty-five years ago; yet my heart bleeds to-day!

Wilton was deeply affected by the recital. His eyes never once left my face and they were often wet with tears. When I had done the hand he laid on my shoulder had the caressing touch of a woman's and his sweet volce was throbbing with sympathy.

"My dear friend," he said, "such love as yours is its own exceedingly great reward. In a life soon to come ft will bear a glorious fruitage and every tear drop shed will grow a smile."

My eyes looked into his, as he said this, and with the look our souls seemed to clasp hands. I am not gifted with words and can express the feeling experienced in no other way. What I felt and what I saw, that I write down in simple language, as I needs must, not being skilled with my pen.

When the sun began to redden the western waves we walked homeward. Before we had covered half the distance I noticed that Wilton looked unusually pale and tired and had him take my arm. Justas we reached the top of the short flight to steps, leading to the porch which ran round the front of Wilton's home, his arm gave a sudden jerk, he uttered a sharp in-articulate

III.

On the Sunday night following his death I sat alone in my room. It was late. The large clock in the hotel office below had struck twelve. I sat leaning back in an easy rocker, with my feet resting on the top of a small center table. In front of an ornamental fireplace and about six feet to the right of where I sat, stood another rocker, the one-Wilton had always sat in when in the room. The chair was his favorite. He would draw it up in front of the fireplace, as soon as he entered, and resting his feet on top of a small andron, gaze, for the most part, dreamly into its fireless mouth. How often during the past week had I seen him sitting thus! The tall loosely-built form resting languidly in the lap of the rocker, the head inclined slightly to one side and backward; the large blue fascinating eyes, now bent, in their dreamy mystic way, upon the glistening brass of the andiron, now turning upon me, affame with the fires of his speaking soul. Ah, it was hard to believe him dead and that I should never hear his voice nor feel the warm clasp of his hand again!

I write of these things, of the appearance of the room and of my own thoughts, to show that I was wide-awake and knew what was going on about me.

Perhaps five minutes had passed, certainly not more, since the clock struck twelve, when I heard a gentle knocking on my door.

"Wilton's rap and he in his coffin! My God, what can it mean!" I exclaimed in horror starting to my feet.

The rap was repeated.

can it mean!" I excusioned feet.

The rap was repeated.

With a faint "Come in" I sank back into my chair, staring at the door.

The door swung quietly open and Wilton entered. With a quick glance at me he crossed the room and threw himself in the rocker before the fireplace. Then leisurely placing his feet upon the andiron he leaned back and turned his head, so that his face was toward mine, and poured the blue of his eyes into my eyes.

leaned back and turned his head, so that his face was toward mine, and poured the blue of his eyes into my eyes.

For a moment we sat thus, without speaking, staring each into the eyes of the other. The silence was so great and my nerves strained to such a tension that I could distinctly hear my watch ticking in my pocket. Wilton was dressed in his grave-clothes, just as he lay cold and stiff in his coffin. The face had a deeper pallor and was more rigid than in life, but the eyes glowed with the light of a living soul. His hair, which he wore unusually long, was somewhat rumpled, as though he had passed his hand through it a few times, a habit he frequently indulged in; and his small black neck-tie hung slightly awry on the immaculate whiteness of his shirt bosom.

I noticed these things distinctly. There was nothing of the indefiniteness of a dream or a vision about them, or about Wilton. I saw him as plainly as I ever saw anybody.

After what seemed to me many minutes, but which was probably only a few seconds, the thin white hands gripped the arms of the rocker nervously, the white lips opened mechanically, and Wilton's voice reached my ears, like the voice of one speaking from a great distance.

"My dear friend," the voice said, "for a short time I am permitted to re-inhabit this worn-out dwelling-phace of my soul and to compel it, though lifeless, to again perform the functions of life. Only because of the greatness of my desire to make known to you the mystery of our acquaintance has this been granted to me."



THE DOOR SWING QUIETLY OPEN AND WILTON

through the waxy whiteness of hands "Fear not." the voice continued, "th "Fear not," the voice continued, "though you look upon a corpse; yet it is a living soul that speaks. Few must be my words, for the body has not the strength to repeat what my soul would say. Through your eyes and not your ears must the wondrous cause of my great love for you be revealed. I—"

There was a sharp click, as though an overstrained cord had snapped. The voice stopped abruptly, the parted lips closed tightly; and then, like the dissolving views of the stereopticon, began a marvelous transmutation.

ing views of t transmutation.

Swiftly the face and form of Wilton faded and as swiftly came other features and an other form, until a fair face crowned with waves of golden hair and a slight girlish figure, graceful as a lily, sat where Wil-ton had been and looked with eyes of love into my

oyes.
"Mary! Mary!! My love! My wife!!" I cried bounding to my feet and rushing forward to clasp her to my bosom. In the great joy of that sight! forgot the long lonely years and the deep grave which lay

between us; forgot everything but that I again looked

between us; forgot everything but that I again looked upon my love.

With a smile,—ah, often had she thus welcomed me in the happy past so well remembered and so dearly loved:—she half arose from the chair, as if to meet me, stretched out her arms longingly; and then, with a sigh, sank back. Before I could reach her the dear face had faded away and the ghastly countenance and glowing eyes of Wilton again looked into mine.

dear face had faded away and the ghastly counterance and glowing eyes of Wilton again looked into mine.

I had almost reached the chair when the change occurred; and I stopped stock-still and stood staring at the form in the rocker.

Ah, I cannot write of the anguish of that moment! I would need to dip my pen in my heart's warm blood and to write in the language of a wailing soul to tell of the depths of my disappointment. It was as if my darling had died again.

Wilton sat for a moment in the chair, like one who paused to rest; and then, as a smile wreathed his nale lips, he arose to his feet and glided swiftly to the door. On the threshold he stopped, turned and gave me a smile and nod, just as he was wont to do at parting, and vanished sliently into the darkness.

I stood perhaps for a minute, as if in a trance, then seized my hat and rushed from the room, determined to find out if the dead had, indeed, been with me.

When I reached Wilton's house I found the two watchers sound asleep. I did not awaken them; but stole quietly to the coffin and looked within. The body lay just as it had when I had looked upon it, as I had thought, for the last time at noon that day; except that the hair was slightly rumpled, as though a hand had been passed through it several times, and the small black neck-tie hung slightly awry on the immaculate whiteness of the shirt bosom.

I have plainly told a tale that is far from plain to me. In it I have set down some strange things with-out comment; and now, that I have come to the send. I have no words of explanation to offer, only this: "There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, Than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

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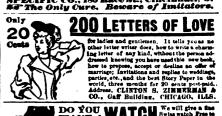
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"WOMAN'S JACK-KNIFE."

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FACT is nowhere recorded that our Mother Eve used hairpins, and it is altogether probable that she wore her hair floating in Nature's own fashion.

But it could not have been a very far cry far cry from Eve to some sort of device for keeping the locks in place, since we read very early in sacred history, of the vanity of women in the arrangement of their hair.

ment of their hair.

Nothing is said of the earliest hairpins, but it is altogether probable that thorns, bits of wood cut fine and smooth, and pleces of sharpened bone were first used for this purpose.

ened bone were first used for this purpose. Then ivory and metal were introduced, and among the Aztec races, were found, by both Cortez and Pizarro, beautiful ornaments for the hair in silver and gold, wrought with precious stones.

Now the hairpin is indispensable, it is as much in use as the pin, but who invented it in its present convenient form no one can tell. Encyclopedias are silent, and the dictionaries, unabridged as they claim to be, haven't a word to say.

The common every-day hairpin, which every woman from Queen Victoria to the humblest worker uses, is made as follows:

The wire of which they are pieces, is wound upon a reel and the end given to a special machine which automatically feeds itself from the coil, cutting of straight pieces double the length of the completed hairpin, at the rate of about ninety a minute. The first operation bends it into the U-shaped form, and the pin is then fed into a dial and carried to the other side of the machine. During its journey the ends are presented to rapidly revolving steel blades, by which they are pointed. Then by a little "pusher" the pin is shoved out of the dial and drops into a box on the floor.

The hairpins are given their black, glossy coating

presented to rapidly revolving steel blades, by which they are pointed. Then by a little "qusher" the pin is shoved out of the dial and drops into a box on the floor.

The hairpins are given their black, glossy coating by placing a quantity in a slowly revolving iron cylinder—"tumbling barrel" it is called—together with a little japan. This is in reality the most difficult part of hairpin making, so difficult indeed that concerns who have gone into the business have given it up because they could not succeed in japanning properly. It took one manufacturer a year of daily practice and experiment before the desired product was achieved.

After being taken from the cylinder the pins are put into a furnace, where the japan is baked in the customary manner. The completed pins are packed in small pasteboard boxes, and are ready for market. It is estimated that the yearly product of hairpins is over five hundred millions. As they never wear out, about this number, therefore, must annually be lost, A few of these are doubtless picked up and used over again, but the vast majority of women cannot be induced to secure their flowing locks with anybody else's hairpins.

This crooked piece of wire is to a woman what a jack-knife is to a man—indispensable. With it she buttons her gloves and shoes, draws corks, picks locks, cleans lamps, hangs pictures, mends various articles, marks passages in books, cuts out tems from the newspaper, and has in fact, been known to do the work of house-cleaning with it.

Just at present, fashion is giving a great deal of attention to ornamental hairpins, and they are made in gold, silver, tortoice-shell and amber, and the designs are from the finest artificers in these beautiful materials. Some of the most expensive are jewelled with precious stones, and the simplest are in knots and coils of silver. Between these two are exquisite pieces of filagree work in silver and gold, big amber balls and delicate carvings of tortoise shell.

So you see, simple though it seems, the word hairpin is, after

OLDER THAN A. D.

THE girl of the period know, when she cequettes with her pretty fan of modern stylish make. that she is flirting with one of the oldest relics of antiquity?

Some historians say that pretty almond-eyed K an-si, the daughter of a Chinese mandarin, used one long ages B. C. Traces of fans had traveled across Persia and Asia Minor to Greece before the worship of Isis began to prevail in Greece that divinity was represented with a semi-circular fan, made of different length and pointed at the top. Euripides speaks of using a fan to protect the famous Helen from the heat. O vi d, Terence, and others, speak of fans as though they were as much a necessary adjunct to a ladies' wardrobe as they are fedici introduced fans that could be noc. Fans became objects of great teasing a fans that you is YV and Louis YV

Catherine de Medici introduced fans that could be folded, into France. Fans became objects of great luxury during the reign of Louis XIV and Louis XV. They frequently cost as high as \$70, but no tollet was complete without one. It was during this period that the famous Watteau fans came into favor—exquisite trifles of silk, painted and jewelled until they at last reached exorbitant prices.

In England they were quite the fashion in the "Merry Wives of Windsor." And one of Queen Elizabeth's New Year's presents was a superb fan set with diamonds.

Wives of Windsor." And one of Queen Elizabeths New Year's presents was a superb fan set with diamonds.

In Spain fans were in vogue at an early date. The Spanish ladies have always, in fact, been adepts in the use of the fan. They not only carry on conversations with it, but they sometimes flirt abominably from some lattice window behind which they are confined but not entirely concealed.

The Japanese are famous, also, for the way they have of always carrying a fan. Both sexes and all ages are provided with fans at all times. Where a European takes off his hat, the Japanese waves his fan. In the schools, the rewards of merit are fans. A beggar receives alms upon his fan, and where a criminal of the upper classes is to be executed he is presented with a fan; although just as he reaches out his hand for it, his head is cut off. Perhaps the Japanese call this killing a man with kindness.

Fans were used allegorically in the Greek mythology, and an Egyptian fashon of, using them for religious purposes in temples, is also embodied in the modern Greek church, where the deacons carry fans. In certain fetes of the Bomish church also, large and costly fans are carried behind the Pope.

China and Japan make the largest number of fans for our use; while France and Spain make the hand somest ones, although there are manufactories in

this country whose products do not fall short of the daintiest fans of France and Germany. So think, girls, as you wave yours so airily, of the Chinese girl, Kan-si, who worked havoc with the Celestial hearts ages and ages B. C. For "alas, there is nothing new under the sun."

WORLD'S FAIR NOTES.

Pive hundred college students, at a small fee, are to act as guides about the grounds, at the World's Fair.

Electric wagons, and phaetons propelled by power from a dynamo will be common at Jackson Park this summer.

A regular post-office has already been established on the Fair grounds, and the clerical force will be in-creased the first of this month.

There will be a collection of heathen idols at the Fair that will make every dime museum manager in the country turn green with envy.

Fifty thousand bicyclers are expected to visit the World's Fair in August, at which time great races by the most noted amateurs will be held.

The Ferris weeel, 250 feet in diameter, will be one of the sensations of the Fair. Upon its rim will be fastened cages in which people may ride.

Twenty-two different kinds of native wood enter into the construction of the Ceylon building, which will be modelled after the famous temples of that island.

Pennsylvania is to send a school for the blind with 30 pupils, which will doubtless do much to show the public the aptitude of sightless children, and the improved modern methods for their instruction.

proved modern methods for their instruction.

The exhibit in the Fisheries Building will be most strange and marvellous. In tanks illuminated by electricity will be specimens of the edible, beautiful, curious and monstrous life which reside in the depths of every sea. Stage coaches driven by genuine western drivers, will run out to the Exposition Grounds from Chicago, and will be a very picturesque feature. All the horses and equipments will be superb, and the coaches will accommodate forty passengers—twenty-four on top.

The French Government building is attracting much attention by its unique architecture. It is but one story high with two pavilions in front, separated by a court-yard and connected at the back by open colonnades to form a promenade gallery. The court will be provided with fountains and shrubbery and statuary, placed here and there. The whole will be used for the summer entertainment of guests.

ODDITIES.

An "artist" in New York recently painted fifty pic-tures in one day—and sold them all by auction as fast as they were finished.

The Republic of Texas, before it joined the United States, once had a Secretary of the Navy who never saw a ship, an ocean, or even a bay.

Robert Louis Stevenson, the great novelist, is said to smoke 200 cigarettes a day. If this is true he is the champion cigarette fiend of the age.

"Tripe," tanned by a new process, is said to be the lightest leather known. It is as pliable as cotton and is called "membranoid" or "boucle." It is used for pocket-books.

A pet alligator which had been smuggled into the Palmer House in Chicago, recently, got up a circus and made things lively by getting out of his box and chasing the chambermaid.

chasing the chambermaid.

Sir Thomas Moore, who was beheaded for denying the supremacy of Henry VIII, was cheerful even on the scaffold. "Help me up," he said to a man standing near. "Coming down I will shift for myself."

Orchid tea has been coming in vogue for fifty years. The handsome andfexpensive Angroecum is used for the purpose and makes a delightful but costly drink. It comes from the island of Mauritius.

It comes from the island of Mauritius.

A Pennsylvania father recently had his son arrested for burglary. The boy was growing up worthless and of a thievish tendency, and his father thinks two years in a penitentiary will be a good lesson.

Two women have gone to court in New York State, because in a recent quarrel over the husband of one of them, the fascinating young widow threw her "store" teeth at the other, cutting a deep gash in her face and disfiguring her seriously.

A vessel which was sunk over fifty years ago, was raised and towed into Galveston, Texas, recently. She was covered with barnacles and sea-shells; but the leaks which had sunk her had been stopped by these deposits and when pumped out she rode the sea like a duck.

sea like a duck.

In Brazil, a young unmarried woman's funeral must be attended by a cofflu, hearse, and driver's livery, all of bright scarlet. The four white horses drawing the hearse wear scarlet nets and waving plumes of the same color. A girl's funeral thus becomes a sort of red letter day.

A schooner aying off Sandy Hook in a thick fog, used a steam fog-horn, whereby she was mistaken for a steamer by an ocean liner. Through this misunderstanding a collision occurred by which the small craft was badly wrecked. The owners now sue the steamship company for damages but the latter maintain that the sailing regulations do not admit of a steam whistle being used upon a sailing vessel.

Early in the century, \$300,000 in gold coin were

maintain that the sailing regulations do not admit of a steam whistle being used upon a sailing vessel.

Early in the century, \$300,000 in gold coin were the control of fathomiess depth, in Texas, to keep it from a band of robbers who had attacked the caravan who were taking it across country on muleback. Records prove that it is there, and many unsuccessful attempts have been made to reach the bottom of the hole where it lies. Now, a wealthy ranchman of Texas is having constructed a special machine to recover the money, and expects to be \$300,000 richer for his pains.

At a college in Iowa the senior class recently marched into chapel one morning in Oxford gowns and mortarboard caps, greatly to the surprise of the remainder of the students and the faculty. The following morning, shortly after the seniors had appeared in these classic robes, the door opened, and the junior class entered, clad in last year's campaign uniforms, consisting of red olicloth capes and helmets. They marched solemnly to their seats, followed closely by the freshmen class, who stalked in arrayed in Mother Hubbards. The effect was paralyzing and even the faculty joined in the uproar. This aping of the seniors' costumes has, however, stirred up some hard feeling.

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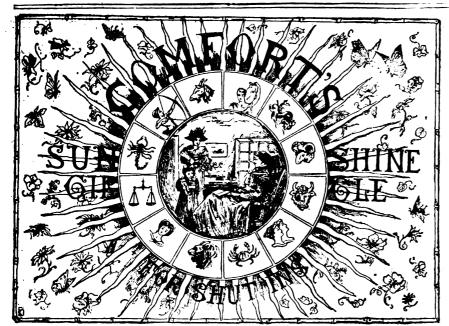
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All correspondence for this department should be directed to Sunshine Circle, care of Componer, Augusta, Maine.

SAR FHIENDS:

I have the pleasant task of introducing myself to you as the editor of Comports "Sunshine Circle for Shut Ins." I hope you will receive me kindly, that we may become great friends, and have many pleasant social chats together through this Sunny Circle, which may bring good cheer into your lives and into my own. Believe me, I can sympathise with you in your sufferings through my own experience; for I have known many long weavy days and nights of pain, when it seemed that all I could think of was just how to endure. Such suffering leaves its traces on our character, and makes us either better or worse, according to the way we take it. Patience is not an easy virtue to obtain, but beautiful are the fruits of it. Let us all strive for it. One little sentence has eften come to me as a comforting thought when suffering. It is: "Even this, also, shall pass away." Try to be patient and wait; and rest, and comfort, and peace will savely be yours at last.

And now I want to say a few words about this department as I take my place at its head. We mean to make it as cheerful, helpful, and sympathetic as we can. We wish to become acquainted and stand in such friendly relations that we can ask counsel, or advice, or sympathy, and be sure of getting it. The different writers to this department may flud much pleasure grow out of it in many ways; among other things, personal correspondence, by which they may make valuable friends.

So many addresses of Shut-Ins are given each month that you can write to each other direct. In this way reading matter may be asked for, and little exchanges of flower-seeds, pieces for fancy-work, etc., may be made; but don't send through us. And, as I think you will all see, direct financial aid cannot be given. It would take a force of, at least, twenty elerks to conduct this department in that case. Think for one moment of the immense circulation which Comport has, over twelve hundred thousand already—a circulation monthly increasing. Imagine the work there would be just in replying

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Remember you are to send a club of five-or as many more names as you can—and take out of the money you receive from these subscribers, fifteen cents for each one, sending us ten cents apiece. Don't you see that here is a way for you to carn something?

"But I am shut into my house. I cannot go out and get subscribers," says one.

Can't you? Now, how many people do you know? There is your dector. There is the minister. There are lots of people who occasionally come to see you. There is the school-teacher. There is your servant. There are relatives and friends to whom you write. Lay the case before them. They will not grudge twenty-five cents, when they know you are to get more than half, while they receive a paper in return worth ten times the money. Get them interested for you. They will speak to their friends. Subscribers will come to you, as you lie on your bed, or sit help-less in your chair. A boy in a single factory got one hundred names sa

Again, once more, when you write to each other, don't try to do it through this office. Much as we would like to do everything possible to make life brighter for you, it is simply out of the question to take upon curselves any more work than we already have. Direct your letters to each other's addresses, and make your own exchanges and investigations through some friend or prominent citizen. And may you get much happiness from friendly correspondence, and much money by club-raising during the next few months.

We receive a great number of letters, and most gladly would we print them all, but you must remember, dear Shut-Ins, that this is only one of the many departments that go to fill a paper, and we can allow it but a limited space; so if your letters are condensed, if only a line or two is given, do not be disappointed, but be assured each letter is read from beginning to end, and the best is done for it possible.

Some letters are sent to this department which do not belong here. Remember, it is not an advertising department—it is exclusively for invalids; for the suffering in body, and must be devoted to them alone. From the letters on hand at present, I take the following extracts:

Mrs. E. Day writes:—

"I have been an invalid twelve years from rheumatism. I cannot walk a step without my crutches."

Mrs. E. Day writes:—

"I have been an invalid twelve years from rheumatism. I cannot walk a step without my crutches; cannot dress or undress myself. For one year I was as helpless as a baby. Now I can sit up in my chair, can read and write, which is a great comfort to me, my heart goes out to other Shut-Ins, and I wish it was in my power to do something for them. I would like reading matter or letters from the friends, also I am in need of clothes. Address 721 North Washington St., Owosso, Shiawassee Co., Michigan."

I hone the Shut-Ins will not fower this cell

In St., Owosso, Shiawassee Co., Michigan."

I hope the Shut-Ins will not forget this call.

Mrs. T. M. Davis, Taylor Hill, Ill. writes:—

"Four years ago I was ambitious to make my mark in life and was studying for a teacher, hoping to support my widowed mother; but now I am a helpless cripple. I have not walked a step for nearly four years, but I try to feel that it is His will. Dear friends, let us try to be very patient; for our invalidism is hard enough for our dear once who walt on us so patiently and tenderly. Let us flot make it harder for them, but be patient, and look beyond. If the COMFORT readers will send me reading matter I shall be very thankful, as reading is my only pleasure."

pleasure."

I wish to call the attention of our suffering friends to one important suggestion in the above letter; which is, that there is always one thing we can do even when shut in; we can make a sunny corner for our family and friends to visit. By showing a grateful and uncomplaining spirit not only will we be happier ourselves, but make the task of caring for us far easier and pleasanter for the relative, friend, or nurse who waits upon us.

Joseph B. Osborne, Garrett, W. Va. writes:—

"It is with the gratest and president that I nature."

Joseph B. Osborne, Garrett, W. Va. writes:—
"It is with the greatest appreciation that I return to you my grateful thanks for many kind letters, quilt scraps, good reading, and other help I have received. I could not answer all the letters on account of lack of means to mail them; but I hope none will think themselves slighted, and that all will write again, for it is a great pleasure to me to read their kind letters. I shall always praise COMPORT for the good it has done me. I think I will be able to sit up in a chair soon, but it is not likely I can ever walk again. I have a lot of good reading, which I will be pleased to send to anyone who will send postage for the same. My birthday is on April 13th. Please send me a letter party on that day."

Let us all remember our friend, Mr. Osborne, on his birthday. Put the date down right away, then it will not be forgotten. I am sure all the Shut-Ins will be glad to hear he is going to be able to sit up once more.

Mrs. A. N. E., Hamilton, N. Y., Box 126, writes:—

once more.

Mrs. A. N. E., Hamilton, N. Y., Box 126, writes:—

"I read COMFORT every month with interest, and the page for the Shut-Ins is worth everything to me. Have been an invalid long years, and an entire Shut-In for many months. Have been afflicted with hay fever during the summer months since I can remember, taking towerful medicines for relief which have injured my digestion so much that I seem literally starving. I should be pleased to receive letters from others similarly afflicted, as I am lonely and it seems as if there was no one to sympathize with me. Who would like to send a few scraps of silk for a boot plancusion pattern to be made in crazy work, also a pattern of the sickle described in the December number? I will send patterns in exchange for scraps. Love and sympaihy to you all."

I trust that our dear friend will no longer have a chance to feel lonely now that she has joined the COMFORT circle, and that all who can will remember her with letters and scraps of silk.

Miss S. R. Johnson, Scarboro, Harford Co., Md.. writes:—

"As I sit by my warm fireside this windy afternoon Mrs. A. N. E., Hamilton, N. Y., Box 126, writes:-

"As I sit by my warm fireside this windy afternoon and gaze out upon a world wrapped in snow,I am impressed with the gloom of the day; yet I know full and gaze out upon a world wrapped in snow, I am impressed with the gloom of the day; yet I know full well somewhere beyond this ice and snow there is a land where the fairest roses are blooming, and tuneful birds are filling the air with sweetest melody; and I love to think of these beautiful things for it helps me to bear the wintry blasts. Just so it may be with you dear friends; many of you are suffering pain, enduring bitter trials and sorrows. The storms, and clouds, and shadows of this life depress you, yet remember, beyond it all is a land where storms can never come, where pain and sorrow are never known, and where immortal flowers forever bloom. May you all reach that fair land and join the goodly company 'who have gone up through great tribulation.' I should be very much pleased to have the friends who love flowers write to me, and I should consider it a great kindness to have a package of seeds sent me from every State in the Union, with name of flower and State written plainly upon it. My object in this request is, that I might have during the coming season a United States flower-bed.'

Let us all do what we can to help the "United"

ing season a United States flower-bed."

Let us all do what we can to help the "United States flower-bed." It is a pretty idea, and this is one of the many ways in which we can, with little trouble, minister to the happiness of others. I think the great danger to be guarded against in ill health, is that of becoming too much wrapped up in ourselves, which makes us morbid, selfish, and unhappy; and this department in Comport gives all the readers a chance to look upon other's burdens and help to lighten them. By so doing, their own will grow lighter. Will you not each one send in your favorite verse of poetry, or some comforting word or thought that has cheered you, and which may cheer others? This exchange of comforting thoughts would, I think, be very pleasant. It would be a pleasure, too, to hear how some of our Shut-Inspass the time; by what work, or by what books they

are enabled to make the day seem less tedious, and, perhaps, turn it to good account. This exchange night give to others ideas of new work or new books they could enjoy. I must close by giving you all one verse to cheer you.

"Rejoice, O grieving heart!
The hours fly fast;
With each some sorrow dies,
With each some shadow flies;
Until at last
The red dawn in the east
Bids weary night depart,
And pain is past.
Rejoice, then, grieving heart,
The hours fly fast."
best wishes for your comfort, be

With the best wishes for your comfort, believe me. SISTER MARGARET.

ST. VITUS DANCE. One bottle Dr.M.M. Fenner's Specific always cures. Circular with cures. Fredonia, N.Y.

The Czar of Russia does not institute, nor is he in many instances even aware of, the elaborate precautions taken for his safety, for fear of assassination. He is a large, tremendously powerful man, of great personal courage. He is surrounded by these safeguards by the dignitaries of his personal retinue, partly for their own safety and partly to avoid the very uncomfortable fate they would meet were anything to happen to him. His father was blown to pieces twelve years ago by a Nihilist bomb and all of his predecessors upon the Russian throne have met with either violent or mysterious deaths. It is said that several chambers are prepared for him nightly and that no one but the Czar himself knows beforehand in which room he will sleep.

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A CHANCE TO MAKE MONEY.



I have berries, grapes and peaches, a year old, freeh as when picked. I use "Hood's improved process;" do not heat or seal the fruit, just freeh, and costs almost nothing; freeh, and costs almost nothing; freeh, and costs almost nothing; can put up a bushel in ten minutes. Last week I sold directions to over one hundred families. Any one will pay a dollar for directions when they see the beattiful fruit samples. Fall and winter are the best time to sell directions. So people can experiment and be ready for next fruit season. As there are many poor people like myself I consider it my duty to give my experience to such, and feel confident anyone can make one or two hundred dollars around home in a few days. I will mail sample of fruit and complete directions to any of your readers for 19 two-cent stamps, which is only the actual cost of the sample, postage, etc., to me.

Mrs. Henry Griffith, New Concord, Ohio.

A Gorgeously Beautiful Picture in magnificent coloring upon a back ground of pure gold; size, 18x2. In the center resting upon a beautiful easel and supported by a slab of purest marble is an open book in which to register the names can be autiful easel and supported to register the names can be autiful expell and on the hight amother beautiful scroll and on the marriages and deaths. Burmounting all in most beautiful letters are the words, "GOD BLESS OUR FAMILY." Underneath are spaces for Fathers' and Mothers' pictures, and all around are similar spaces interspersed with most beautiful flowers and leaves buds and blossoms, roses and vines, etc. in varied lors and matchless beauty, all thrown into startling prominence by the beautiful and costly back ground of Solid Gold. AGENTS, NOW IS YOUR TIME! Our tegular price is 560 cents but so we will sell a facility for the substitution of the substitu and Chain, 855. All charges prepaid. STANDARR SUPPLY HOUSE, Chicago, Ill.

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gour money a search, and if you are not perfectly satisfied we will return your money and make you a present of all. As to our reliability, we refer to any newspaper published in New York, and to the Commercial Agencies. You will miss an opportunity of a lifetime if you fail to take advantage of this great offer. Address F. M.

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1871 with plain date, keep them, and write to me at once
for my circular watch for silver dollar dated before 1888; all 20 cent pieces; 5 cent pieces between 1894 and 1886; half dollars dated before 1894; quarters
for dated before 1888; all 20 cent pieces; 5 cent pieces between 1894 and 1895; a half dollars dated before 1894; quarters
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1894 or 1856 cent, 20 for certain half dimes, \$10.50 for 1835 half dollar, \$1.50 for 1805 quarter, and many more big sums if
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The diamond is said to be the lucky stone for those born in April.

According to a famous astrologer, the lucky days for April are the 10th, 11th, 15th, 16th, 20th, 21st, 23rd and 25th. The unlucky ones are the 4th, 5th, 8th, 13th, 14th, 19th, 22nd, 27th, 29th and 30th. The rest are neither fortunate nor unfortunate

Electricity will soon do the work of the world. The latest invention is an electric heater which is cheap and convenient. One of these heaters was tried in an electric car in Boston recently, and although the outside temperature was only 14 degrees, the car was easily kept heated to 60 degrees so that men took off their overcoats. The electric current is passed through a patent brick under the seat, and contains many coils of wire which give the resistance that generates the heat. The brick is in the center of a small metal box filled with a chemical compound which takes up this heat and circulates it through iron pipes like steam-pipes. The cost is only ten cents a day, which seems insignificant to those who have to ride in cold cars.

This invention can be applied to heating houses and to cooking; and in places where there is no regular electric works, the electricity can be obtained by using the power of a windmill or water-wheel.

Unless all signs fail, May 5th will be an important day to the 60,000 Chinese in America. That day is the limit of the time allowed by the Geary law for Chinamen to register with the collectors of internal revenue and to file descriptions and photographs of themselves. According to this law, all who fail to register within the time set shall be arrested and sent back to China.

The Chinese all over the country have considered the law unjust and unconstitutional, and they have refused to register except in a very few cases. In Boston only one had registered up to the middle of March. In San Francisco there are over 40,000 Celestials, and if the internal revenue office should be kept open night and day, there would not be time for them all to file their photographs and descriptions before May 5th. So, even if the Chinamen there change their minds and try to register, only a small proportion of them will be able to comply with the law, and it is certain that there will be many thousands subject to arrest and deportation.

At a low estimate it will take \$250.00 to arrest, prosecute, and send back each Chinaman, or about \$15,000,000 for all those in the country. As Congress has appropriated only \$100,000 for this purpose, the government officials will have a serious problem before them unless more money is appropriated or the Geary law is repealed.

young or old, married or single, is interested in the liberal cash prize offers announced in this issue of Comfort under the heads of Nutshell Story Club and Busy Bees; and those that will be announced in our May number in the new Prize Puzzle Club and Aunt Minerva Chats.

The extraordinary offer made to Shut-Ins in another part of this issue will prove a pleasing aid to invalids everywhere, and every man and woman blessed with good health should not fail to direct the attention of their Shut-In friends to our helpful and profitable sugges-

With the beginning of next month, all roads will lead to Chicago. Comfort will celebrate the great event by issuing its banner number.

Certain important changes in Comfort which are well under way, and which will shortly be announced, will cause all those who send in their yearly subscriptions during this month, to congratulate themselves. Remember, a whole year's Comport costs but twenty-five cents.

Eyes; But They See Not.

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SPECTACLES of the Boston girl have furnished material for every "funny column" in America.

serious side to this growing tendency of our young people to adopt glasses be-fore they finish college courses.

The normal eye, so scientific writers tell us, should not need the aid of magnifying glasses until about the age of 47. But very few people live to that age nowadays without adopting

spectacles. Why?

People use their eyes more.

They read more. They keep later hours

They read on swift railroad trains—a pro-ceeding which is very injurious to the eye. Electric lights, which are used in every town

of any size nowadays, are also very hard on the eyes. In short the strain is constantly increasing with each generation; consequently, poor eyesight becomes a matter of heredity.

The loss of the focalizing power of the eye is scientifically termed, presbyopia. Glasses with greater or less magnifying power are needed for this trouble.

used for sewing or reading, are convenient and unobjectionable for occasional use.

One cannot help wondering, in view of the increasing eye-failure of the world, whether the coming man and woman will not need to be born with glass eyes.

CAME TO STAY.

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OCTORS may talk, and artists may rave about the human form divine as shown in the form of the wonderful Venus de Medici: but most women will agree that if Venus had been fitted to a modern costume s he would have presented an unlovely, not to say baggy waist. waist.
And health reformers may say what they will, women have worn corsets



women have worn corsets for centuries past, and they will for centuries to come. The origin of the corset has been traced to the remotest antiquity. It is not known that Eve ever wore them, but it is certain that bandages it is certain that bandages resembling corsets were worn by the Roman matrons during the republic design of sup-

and the empire, first with the design of sup-porting the bust, but later with the idea of compressing the waist.

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P. O. Bez. 1024.

Prior to the French Revolution, corsets of German invention had been worn for several centuries, with plates and rods of metals. They were—it is unnecessary to relate—prejudicial to health, when tightly laced, as they were more like a steel trap than anything else, and utterly unlike the corsets of to-day. After the French Revolution, the ladies of France adopted the Greek costume, and wore a very slight corset; but during the present century the corset, as we know it, came into fashion and evidently "came to stay."

the Nutshell Story Club should note that this month a large increase in the amounts of cash prizes goes into effect, and that hereafter no manuscript will, under any circumstances whatever, be returned.

Other innect.

For over a year there has been in course of construction for Comfort the most marvellous printing press ever devised. As soon as the same shall be in operation we will publish full particulars concerning our offer to pay Twenty-One Thousand Dollars in cash prizes for getters up of clubs of subscribers for Comfort at 25 cents per year. As only those who are regular paid-up yearly subscribers themselves may compete for these prizes, all those who wish to secure a share of these enormous cash awards should at once see to it that their name is on our yearly paid-up subscription list. Don't waituntil it is too late, but send your quarter to-day for the best, most entertaining and cheapest publication on earth.



Again more people than formerly are troubled with myopia, i.e. are born near-sighted, and are obliged to wear another kind of glasses for the purpose of seeing objects in the distance; or the optic vision is not alike in both eyes and 'astigmatism" (cross-eyes) is the consequence, when a yet different pair of glasses is needed Whatever may be the trouble, the need of spectacles is on the increase and with every generation that is born a larger proportion

Alessandro di Spina, a monk of Pisa who died in 1313, is generally accredited with having made public the benefit of spectacles, which had been invented sometime between 1280 and 1311. It was probably to compensate for presbyopia, that spectacles were first invented Just how long before this the discovery was made that looking through convex glasses assisted the failing eye-sight is not known; but it is safe to assume it was not many years. Roger Bacon was the first to point out the fact to his brethren in a Franciscan monastery about 1250.

The material of which spectacles are made is usually glass, although a variety of rock-crystal, called Brazilian pebbles, is also used. The latter is less apt to get scratched, and does not so readily become dimmed with moisture as glass, but it is heavier and far more expensive.

In general, the word spectacle is used to designate those glasses which are set in a frame reaching to the ears, or behind them; while "eye-glasses" are made to clasp the nose. The former are better in cases of near-sightedness, or whenever there is need to wear glasses all the time; while eye-glasses, which are only

but during the present century the corset, as we know it, came into fashion and evidently "came to stay."

For ages, the best corsets were made in France, and in the opinion of many of our fashionable women, are still; but they are also much more expensive. American ingenuity, however, is every year finding out the secrets of success. The best ones made here now compare favorably with the finest foreign manufactures, and the patriotic American woman is content to wear them.

other important changes have been made in e conditions which govern the awards, as ill be seen by reference to the Nutshell Story Department.



EDITOR'S NOTE. The following rules govern the publication of all matter in this department.

publication of all matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular subscribers to Comfort, and every contribution must bear the writer's own name and post office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may exceed the latter limit. Contributors must write on one side of their paper only.

Every month a number of prize monograms composed of the writer's initials, will be awarded to those sending the best contributions. These monograms, which will be most desirable ornaments for stationery, cards, etc., will be printed in connection with the respective letters, and new electrotypes of same will be mailed, post paid, to the prize winners.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of Comport, Augusta, Maine.

APRIL PRIZE WINNERS.

L. E. Ormond,
Jessie J. Rigg,
Dwight Arnold,
Ida C. Nichols,
Maggie Fields,

EAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES:

It is highly gratifying to notice that several of the Comport Cousins have been among the prize winners in the Nutshell Story Club. This is exactly what we want as it shows that the practice you are getting here educates you for something higher. What a splendid thing it is to be able to earn thirty dollars for a single short story! I have observed also a great improvement in your style of writing, from month to month, and am glad to see so strong an interest in this corner, and so evident a desire for advancement on the part of every Cousin who writes to me. I only wish it were possible to print all the good things that come.

But I must not take up the space which properly belongs to you. Here is a most interesting letter from Grand Rapids, Mich."

"This city is now the largest furniture manufac-EAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES

from Grand Rapids, Mich.

"This city is now the largest furniture manufacturing centre in the world. Its products not only go all over this continent but are shipped to distant countries. This great industry is of comparatively recent growth. Previous to 1864 all the furniture made here was for local consumption. In 1865 the value of the out-put was only \$134,000, employing 175 men. In 1877 there were seven factories with \$1,000,000 capital, employing 170 men, producing \$1,150,000,000 worth of goods. There are now 35 factories employing 5,915 men with a capital of \$4,263,500 and producing \$6,775,350 worth of goods.



men with a capital of \$4,265,000
and producing \$6,775,350 worth
of goods.

"The Furniture Manufacturers' Association comprises 52 members and firms. It was organized June
13, 1881, with Blias Matter first president. At least
four of the Grand Rapids furniture factories are
larger than any others in the world, both in the size
of their buildings, the number of employees and the
amount of production. The furniture trade all over
this continent recognizes Grand Rapids as the great
centre of the business; and representative buyers
and manufacturers congregate here to obtain prices
and styles. Many leading hotels of this country and
Europe have been furnished on direct orders from
our factories. Last November a single shipment of
twenty car-loads,
valued at \$100,000 was
made to Montevidee,
South A merica.
Single orders of \$50,
000 to \$75,000 of this
character are noteonsidered unusual.

"The New Audi-

character are not con-sidered unusual.

"The New Audi-torium in Chicago was furnished with Grand Rapids goods; and many of the most costly and noted dwellings on this con-tinent have been fur-nished from this city.

"The reading car-pet sweeper company is located here and manufactures more sweepers than all

manufactures more sweepers than all other factories in the world combined, often producing 185,000 per year. Their out-put last year was valued at about \$400,000. All the furniture companies, here have been compelled to increase their factories in order to keep up with the pressure of orders."

orders."
L. E. ORMOND, 42
Cass St., Grand
Rapids, Mich.

I consider this a

I consider this very instructive letter. I confess with which every one is familiar, are manufactured in Grand Rapids; and I am willing to hazard a guess that very few of the Cousins knew that so much furniture is made there. The style of the letter is good also, containing no superfluous words, but giving us plain statements of fact. It is only when people haven't much o say that they multiply words. Now we will take a trip to Lake Geneva—not the famous one in Switzerland, but another one, said to be very beautiful, up in Wisconsin. Our correspondents ays:

famous one in Switzerland, but another one, said to be very beautiful, up in Wisconsin. Our correspondent says:

"It was named after the city of Geneva in Switzerland on account of its picturesque scenery. Its name at first was Big Foot Lake but was changed to Geneva. The town on its shore is not a very large place, but is growing every year. The population is between five and six thousand. Mr. Featherstone-bough was the first man that ever surveyed Geneva. The main street is only one block from the lake. The electric light and water works system was first introduced into Geneva in 1890. The Chicago and North-western railiroad is the only one that comes in here. Chicago is eighty-six miles southeast of here. There are four large florists here who supply stores in Chicago with flowers. The city garden is a beautiful place in the summer, It contains ten acres. When the truit is ripe it is a lovely sight. Geneva is a noted summer resort. There were people here last sammer from St. Louis, New Orleans, San Francisco, Milwaukee, Detroit and many other places. Several wealthy men of Chicago, Racine and Milwaukee have nice summer residences built around the shore-lake.

the first of May and return to their city houses the last of September. The lake is nine miles long and three miles in width. There are several steamers on the tentemper of their own. The largest steamers on the lake shores have small steamers or row boats of their own. The largest steamer was burned in the winter of 1891. There is a large building at the head of the lake called the "Fresh Air Building." It is for the poor children of Chicago. During the summer there are fifty boys brought out for two weeks and then they are taken back and fifty girls come for two weeks to enjoy themselves fishing, bathing and playing along the beautiful shores. "The V. M. C. A. Society has a very large Taberneele

and playing along the beautiful shores.

"The Y. M. C. A. Society has a very large Tabernacle at the head of the lake. When the people come here they often erect a small tent for sleeping. They have a large building for a dining hall and kitchen. Church services are held in the Tabernacle every day; and there is also a gymnasium connected with it.

JESSIE J. RIGG, Lake Geneva, Wis."

Well, well! America bids fair to have a noted Lake Geneva of its own, as this one keeps on growing, and becomes better known. Doubtless most of the Cousins will agree with me that we have as manyif not more—beautiful spots in this country than there are in Europe, only the world has not yet discovered them. But the Comport Cousins are bringing many of them to public notice. Now here is another letter, short but right to the point, and telling us something we all want to know:

"I live in the State of Illinois, It is after called."



ing many of them to public notice. Now here is another letter, short but right to the point, and telling us something we all want to know:

"I live in the State of I llinois. It is often called the "Prairie State." Occasionally it is known by its other fictitious name, "Sucker State." The word Illinois is derived from its principal river, signifying "River of Men." That enterprising explorer, La Salle, was the first European to settle within its present borders. After exploring the Illinois River he built a small fort which he called Creve Cœur andleft it in command of De Tonty, a French chevalier. Remains of the old fort can still be seen. The old historic spot is not a great distance from where I live, and a visit to it is of great interest. Evidently the country hereabouts was in those days, as well as in the early days of this century when the pioneer began to settle this vast prairie wilderness, a favorite resort of the Red Man. We find numerous instances of his early habitation. But never did we find the Indians here of an unruly nature. It is said that the Peorian Indians were a peaceful tribe. I am a great lover of Nature and have large collections of mineralogical specimens, Indian relics, shells, etc."

DWIGHT ARNOLD, East Peoria, Ill.

How many of us, I wonder, knew where the name Illinois, came from, or what it signified? Here comes an old friend from the Sunny South who has a word to say. She begins:

"Since my last letter in which I gave a short description of New Orleans, I have received several let-



How many of us, I wonder, knew where the name Illinois, came from, or what it signified? Here comes an old friend from the Sunny South who has a word to say. She begins:

"Since my last letter in which I gave a short description of New Orleans, I have received several letters asking me if I would not write a little more about this city, through the columns of Comport. For the benefit of those I have written a short account.

"Given a bright sunny day, such as one finds in this peculiar Southern city, when the magnolias and orange trees are in full bloom shedding their overpowering sweetness into the mild morning air, one can stroll through N. O. and view the sights to the best advantage. The best way to see that partof the city known as the French quarter is by walking down Royal St. Imagine a very narrow street with stores and houses built very near together, the houses being of the old style of French architecture with court yards which you gain by passing through a narrow stone passageway. In this part of the town one finds curious little old book stores, full of old dilapidated books of every description, with so met im es other articles of antiquity that remind one of Dickens' Curios ity Shop. The scene of Cables' Sieur George' is laid here, and not very far away is a queer looking house, which was to be offered to Napoleon 1st in case he wished to exilch himself to Louisiana. A pleasant ride of half an hour in the street cars will take you to a little ivy covered to Napoleon Ist in case he wished to exilch himself to Louisiana. A pleasant ride of half an hour in the street cars will take you to a little irve covered to which is an imposing statue of the church spiculary and the head of St. Charles and Canal Sts. Further up St. Charles all title circular park is reached in the centre of which is an imposing statue of Gen. R. E. Lee. Visitors are attracted to the Margaret Statue. It is said to be the first statue ever erected to a woman in this country. The statue represents a woman with a kind motherly fac

those who accompany me, on this bright sunny morning, must be pretty well fatigued, and we will leave the re-mainder until another time." LOLA BELLE ROATH, Box 1690, New Orleans, La.



portant industry and many driers are successfully run every season. Nearly all kinds of fruit are dried, but as apples are the most abundant I will describe the way in which they are evaporated. When the truit is fully grown, though not fully ripe, it is gathered and carried into a building where boys and

girls stand around long tables running machines which pare, core and slice the apples. The rings are cut and by a dexterous movement of the hand are spread on trays and then placed in the sulphur or evaporating box where they are bleached. This box is a small compartment fitted up for holding trays. On the floor is a pan containing burning sulphur, the fumes of which permeate the fruit. Then the trays are placed in the drier and remain from two to six hours according to the degree of heat employed. The dried fruit is generally put into a bin where it stays until the close of the season; then it is put into sacks or boxes and sent to San Francisco to commission merchants for sale."

(Miss) IDA C NICHOLS, Freestone, Sonoma Co., Cal.

There, that is just what the Cousins will want—short, concise and right to the point. This letter gives us information few of us had before; and the writer certainly deserves as pretty a monogram as our special artist can design. And now I am glad to make room for a new Cousin, from what he styles "The wild and woolly West." He says:

writer certainly deserves as pretty a monogram as our special artist can design. And now I am glad to make room for a new Cousin, from what he styles "The wild and woolly West." He says:

"In the first place Texas is not the wild desolate country that most people believe it to be. Indeed it would be hard to find a more intelligent sociable people than we have in our little city of Clarendon. We had decided to have a glorious time on 'Columbus Day.' It was to be a grand Barbecue, free to all; and invitations were sent to all the neighboring towns and ranches. Among those who accepted the invitations was Old Quannah, a noted Indian chief, and two hundred braves. The program consisted of a grand parade through the town headed by a brass band and clessing with the school children dressed in typical costumes and marching two and two. The Indians were to be drawn up to the grounds to receive the whites as they came marching up, just as Columbus and his men were received so long ago. The ceremonies consisted of speeches from both sides; then the children were to march up, salute the flag and sing "Columbia"; after dinner came foot and horse races. But the crowning event and one, which many had set their bearts on, was to be a great Indian Wardance at night around the campfires. The important day arrived and flags were flying in all directions. The procession drove up to the grounds and were met by the Indians in paint and feathers. I wish I could give the speeches to the cousins but it would take too much space, and I wish to show the many readers how far toward civilization the 'noble red men' have advanced. The prairies rang with 'My country 'tis of thee' as it was sung by a score of voices and then dinner was announced. Oh, how we did enjoy that dinner under the blue sky and how our fair ladies did waiton those 'noble red men,' and all in anticipation of thee' not have a decided to the style and the proverbial Arab. Where could they be? A committee were at once sent into town to what they could learn about them. Wh

And yet they claim that Indians have no sense of humor. Now if the sons of rich men had perpetrated such a thing at Yale or Harvard it would be called a tremendous practical joke. Here is something every COMFORT Cousin will be glad to read, describing the metropolis of the Pacific Coast.

Comport Cousin will be glad to read, describing the metropolis of the Pacific Coast.

San Francisco is a large, beautiful city situated on San Francisco Bay, which is an arm of the Pacific Coean. The first settlement was made in 1777, by the Spaniards, who gave it the name of Yerba Buena, which means 'good herb,' but after seventy years the name was changed to San Francisco. The city is chiefly distinguished as a commercial city, and though ninth in population among the cities of the United States, it ranks fourth in commerce. Its importance as a manufacturing city is also great, the larger part of the manufactures of the State, except lumber, flour and liquors, being produced here. Golden Gate Park contains more than one thousand acres of land, most of which is laid out in beantiful grass plats, flower-beds, little groves of trees, with shrubs, shady walks, and fine roads for driving. Lately a deer park has been added, and a large space fitted up as 'children's quarters,' where the little folks amuse themselves with games, ride on the merry-go-rounds, or on the donkeys, drive the goat-carts, and enjoy the swings, see-saws, spring-boards, or the Maypole. Over 60,000 pupils attend the excellent public schools of San Francisco, and more than 12,000 are in attendance upon the



private schools. In the high school the pupis are taught drawing, and modelling in clay, and also in wood and iron, while the girls are taught cooking and sewing. The population in 1880 was 234,000 and in 1890 was nearly 300,000. The beautiful suburban cities lying across the bay to the east are Oakland, Alameda and Berkeley, and those on the north are Sansalito and San Rafael.

and San Katael.

"Well, I fear I am making my letter too long, so I will step aside and make room for another cousin."

EDWARD H. ZISKA, 448 Jessie St., San Francisco, Cal.

California is a big State, a single country some-times being as large as the New England States com-bined, and there are a great many interesting things to be told about it. Here is something more from a Cousin in the northern part of the State:

ADENIA A. BRECEDA, Mayten, Cal."

These strange phenomena are always welcome knowledge to the Cousins, I am sure. Why, didn't I say a few minutes ago that this country had as many points of interest as Europe? I am rather inclined to think it has more. Here is a letter from a little girl only ten years old, and I am going to publish it because it is so original and clever. She says:

"I am a little girl ten years old. I live at Clarks-ville, Eldorado, and go to school. I have got a pet



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dog named Scot and six dolls and a stuffed cat. I want to become want to become a story writer and win a Nut-shell prize. This is my first letter to a paper and I hope to see it in COMFORT." MAGGIE FIELDS.

10

to a paper and I hope to see it in COMFORT."
MAGGIE FIELDS.
Well, well! Maggie, you ought to have a real live cat, such as pictured here, in ste ad of a stuffed one. I wishl could send you one of my lovely Maltese kittens. Most of the Cousins heard from this month are from the West and South. Now here comes one from the old "Bay State."

"How many of the readers of COMFORT know anything about Danvers, Massachusetts? By the way, there are only two towns of the name in the country, a distinction not common. This one is said to have been named for Count d'Anvers, who came here from England in the long ago. If there ever was an historical town this is one. Here is the birth-place of Gen. Israel Putnam, he of fame caused by riding down on horseback the stone steps in Connecticut. His room in the old homestead is still preserved as he left it. In the War of the Revolution Danvers was scarcely less conspicuous in some respects than Concord and Lexington, and she also distinguished herself in the 'late unpleasantness.' Here is the summer home of the late lamented New England poet, Whittier, and his study is as if just left by the kindly gentleman and bard. And were not all the readers of Comfort surprised to learn that the poet was worth \$130,000? We were, here, even though we were quite familiar with his interests, as we supposed. The most liberal estimates of his worth were not over \$25,000. Here is the Rebecca Nourse house. You remember the story of that good woman who was hanged as a witch in Salem, and whose sons brought here body on their shoulders four miles and buried it near her home? We are not proud of the witcherat distinction that is thrust upon us, but we are proud that a monument has been placed over Rebecca Nourse's grave and annual meetings are held in her honor. We also boast of probably the oldest pear tree in existence. It is known as the Endicott pear tree, and was brought from England over 250 years ago by Governor Endicott. It bore a lot of fruit last summer. The Collins house, where Gen. Washing

FRANK E. MOYNAHAN, Danvers, Mass.

In conclusion I want to whisper in the ear of every Comport Cousin that the editor has a most generous plan for a Cash-prize competition, in the near future, for this department. The prizes will be large enough to make it worth while for any one to compete; and due announcement will be made regarding them, later on. In the meantime be sharpening your pencils and your wits; and look out for subjects of such general interest to every reader that you will stand a fair chance in the competition. Study to improve your style and broaden your out-look, but never make the mistake of trying to write of what you know nothing about.

Aunt Minerva.

HÖNI SOIT QUE MAL Y PENSE.

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THOUSAND dollars for

prizes it none the less.

There is a question as to the healthful qualities of the knee garter. Most physicians think children at least should not wear them. The side-clastic certainly has the advantage over the rubber band which, more or less, compresses the veins and muscles of the leg. Yet there are many women left who cling to the old, historical garter which clasps the knee. For the garter has been an honored emblem since the middle ages. Just how long before that it was invented as a useful adjunct to the wardrobe is not known. Probably the first people to wear hose invented the garter; and stockings were worn as far back as the days of the Roman Empire.

The "Order of the Garter," the highest order of

vented the garter; and stockings were worn as far back as the days of the Roman Empire.

The "Order of the Garter," the highest order of British Knighthood, is one of the oldest and most illustrious orders in Europe. The precise date of its foundation is not exactly known. Some writers give it as in 192, ascribing its origin to Richard I. It is claimed that he made twenty-six of his knights wear blue thongs of leather around their legs on St. George's day, in a battle with the Saracens, which he gained. Other writers give varying accounts, but the balance of evidence seems to prove that the Order of the Garter was established in 1344, when Edward the Confessor invited his knights to a tournament at Windsor. In written accounts of the ward-robe of knights the garter is first mentioned in 1348. An ancient story accounts for the motto thus: The Countess of Salisbury happened, at a ball, to drop her garter. The king, seeing it fall, stooped and picked it up. As he did so, he saw a smile on the faces of the bystanders, whereupon he remarked: "Honi soit que nall y pense." (Evil be to him who evil thinks.) He then added that "Shortly they should see that garter advanced to so high a renown that they would account themselves singularly blessed to wear it," and soon after it was adopted as the emblem of the new order of knighthood.

The garter of the order is of dark blue velvet edged with gold and hearing the moties had been added that with the same and the

order of knighthood.

The garter of the order is of dark blue velvet edge with gold and bearing the motto bestowed by Edward the Confessor, in golden letters. There is a buckle with a pendant of gold, also, which clasps the garter just below the left knee of the wearer. The rest of the costume is correspondingly rich and elegant, with a golden collar made of 26 pieces, each in the form of a garter of blue enamel.

There is also worn a figure of St. George (the patron saint of the order) encountering the dragon, which is attached to the collar, and another pendant, consisting of the Star of St. George, with eight silver points, encircled with the garter. The order is made up of the highest nobles and sovereigns, and never used to exceed 26 in number. Extra knights and sovereigns have been admitted, however, within the last 50 years, until in 1873, the order numbered 47 and included most of the sovereigns of Europe.

Kate Sanborn, the subject of a bright description in our September number, and who adopted an abandoned New England farm and made it fruitful and profitable, gains, it is said, quite a revenue by selling eggs from her model poultry yard to one of the most celebrated and exclusive of Boston Clubs.

Chicago hotel men are interested in a proposition to build floating hotels. If successfully constructed they will have the advantage over others in coolness and comfort during warm weather. They can also be moved about from place to place on the lake, thus doing away with the necessity of summer hotels.

A prominent citizen of Chicago brought suit against a cigar company to compel them to remove his picture from a label placed on goods manufactured by them. The court has decided that a public man's picture is common property, and the manufacturers are allowed to continue the use of the prominent man's likeness.

Workmen digging in the streets of New York City have just unearthed, 20 feet below the surface, a 3-masted ship 90 feet long. Her framework was, in excellent condition, but not an iron nail was found about the vessel, everything being fastened with wooden spikes. Old maps of the city show that over a hundred years ago the water came up in that locality, but the whole territory has since been filled in and is one of the oldest parts of the city. The ship is supposed to be an old whaler.



WISDOM WASTED. One day when Teddy aged three Had acted very badly, His grandma took him on her knee And lectured him most sadly. For ten long minutes, maybe more, She talked to him and scolded, His longing eyes were on the door, His hands quite meekly folded. And when at last she set him free, Said he, a little blue, "Say, Grandma, did you ever see Such talksome folks as you?"



A "FIVE O'CLOCK TEA."

Is fun you see,
If one is as careful,
As careful can be,
And makes no mistake,
In regard to the cake,
Or the number of cups,
He imbibes of the tea.

Aluminum is the coming metal. Since the utiliza-tion of electricity in its extraction from common clay, the cost has been reduced from \$100 in 1807, to 70 cents per pound in 1893. This metal can be used in place of steel, iron, tin and brass. It is much lighter than other metals, and is clean and always bright. It is already used for surgical instruments, foundry castings, grill-work, cameras, table and kitchen ware and for many useful knick-knacks. It is probable that it will be used in the near future for bicycle frames.

A coal miner out in Missouri decided to elope with another man's wife. So he gave her money for a ticket to a neighboring city, but to save expense, he decided to break into an empty box car and steal a ride. Meantime the woman's husband missed her, and learned that she had bought a railroad ticket. He set out in pursuit, and, to lessen the expense of the chase, he, too, determined to steal a ride in a freight car. By a freak of fate he got into the same car with the eloping miner. They were unknown to each other, and in conversation the runaway told all about the elopement. The husband kept quiet, until the train stopped, when he had the eloper arrested, hunted up his wife and took her home.



WHY NOT? Now and then we hear folks say, "Every dog must have its day,"
Just as though he had no right
If he chose to have a night,

Happenings Here, There 🗝 Yonder. 5 0

An electric banjo has appeared in Boston. It costs \$582,114 to light the streets of Boston one

The latest electrical invention successfully tests the

acidity of chemicals.

New York now has \$350,000,000 in savings banks, the savings of the middle classes. Smoke-consumers, for railroads, have been im-proved 85 per cent during the last year.

A great scientist says that 4 per cent of the entire male population are color-blind.

Duelling is still allowed in France, over forty duels having been fought there last year. A man in Pennsylvania deliberately lay down on the log-carriage of a saw mill and sawed his head off.

George Westinghouse invented the air-brake be-ore he was 21 years old. From it he has made a for-

A remarkable case, in which a murderer was discovered through the agency of a dream, has just been placed on record.

A movement is on foot to do away with the head of the "Goddess of Liberty" on our coins, and substitute for it, those of our great statesmen.

Public waste-baskets, attached to electric light poles, are being used in some cities, to catch dirt or rubbish that is ordinarily thrown into the street.

The "hello girl" has got to go. An antomatic switch at the central telephone office has been invented, and it is claimed will save 90 per cent in expense.

Mrs. S. T. Rorer, professor of cookery, of whom Comfort recently printed an interesting article under the head of "Bread Winners," says that "A well-fed man was never a criminal."

the head of "Bread Winners," says that "A well-fed man was never a criminal."

The father of Charley Ross, the lad who was kidnapped so many years ago, now lives in Philadelphia, where he is still in receipt of many letters from people claiming to be his son.

There will be forty war-ships in line, at the grand naval parade at Hampton Roads, Vs., on April 27th. Twenty-eight of these will be from foreign ports. and twelve belong to "Uncle Sam."

It is said that none of the wonderful and complicated modern surgical instruments, invented by physicians, are patented by them, being given to science for the relief and benefit of mankind.

A sneak thief, arrested in New York City after a hard chase, was found, upon being searched, to have a pair of valuable gold bracelets upon his legs. He is liable to wear an iron pair for some time.

Edison said, a few years ago, that it would be, in his opinion, impossible to build a dynamo that could light over a thousand lamps. One has just been built which will keep ten thousand going at a time.

A young man has just been arrested in New York, who has masqueraded for a year as a railway postal clerk, but who is, in reality, a professional thief, and has been plying his nefarious trade during this time.

One of the most famous relics of American History, the old "liberty bell," will be exhibited at the Fair, and will be seen for the first time by hundreds of thousands of the citizens of the great country whose birth it announced.

The great fire in Boston last month destroyed over four million dollars worth of property. A curious

birth it announced.

The great fire in Boston last month destroyed over four million dollars worth of property. A curious fact about it was that the alarm was sounded from the same box which roused the firemen at the great Thanksgiving fire four years ago.

The newest way to illuminate a town is by a large balloon made of thin aluminum and filled with gas. This is kept steady at some point over the town by a rotating fan. The outside is covered with incandescent lamps, and can be made as brilliant as desired.

A young woman was recently taken to the State Insane Asylum in New York, having gone crazy from the notoriety which followed a rairoad accident. Another young woman's body kad been identified and buried as hers, when she turned up in a Chicago hospital.

pital.

A novelty just being introduced into large cities is an ambulance system for broken-down vehicles. In case a wagon breaks an axle, a temporary wheel is soon applied, without unloading, and the blockade which always results from such break-downs in narrow streets, is quickly lifted.

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BLIND SUSAN.

BY LORETTA FULLER.

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WAS away back in the thirties that my grandmother used to tell her children the thrilling incident I have now in mind. It has the merit as a story, of being a "really true" tale, although its deeply laid plot was horrible enough to have been conceived in the dark ages. But the greed of gain, if indulged, has the same tendency in any age, blighting every good acter and steeling the heart against ulse.

In any age, bigning every good growth in the character and steeling the heart against every human impulse.

Blind Susan (this is the only name my mother remembers hearing her called) was a native of the same town in which my grandmother was born, who therefore knew her well. Her misfortune opened to her the door of many homes, where she was the subject of sympathy and pity, but never an "object of charity." Family pride and the spirit of independence were here to a fault, and being an accomplished musician for those days, she persisted in going from place to place, wherever she could obtain engagements, saying pathetically: "It is the one thing I can do well." So her lithe, well-dressed figure, her dog Bruno and her well-beloved violin were a triofamiliar to the pleasure-loving class in many adjacent towns.

amiliar to the pleasure-loving class in many adjaent towns.

One frosty morning in early winter about an hour
before dawn, this odd trio entered a waiting cartage at Music Hall, in a town in western New York,
where she had been one of the musiclans at a Citient's Ball. The driver had protested against Bruno's
entering the carriage. "He can ride on the box with
me," he said.

"Bruno goes where I go," his mistress said, with
ust a hesitating motion, as though to leave the cartage. This gained her point, for "what's the use of
losing a passenger just for a whim?" he muttered.

"Take me to a good hotel on a quiet street," she
lold him, and they were soon spinning along over the
rosen ground in the direction of the suburbs. The
ride seemed long to her, and the night air was chill—
or was it a slight apprehension that made her shiver
visibly as she turned her sightless eyes toward the
window?

preciation.
You'll protect me, won't you Bruno?" she whised. With an intelligence almost human, and an
ection which would shame much of the friendship
the world, he did indeed prove his love and conney as well as his sagacity on that terrible morn-

Upon reaching the hotel the clerk refused to allow the dog to share her room. "Very well," she ald firmly, "Brune always goes where I go. Call me a carriage, please."

The clerk relented, though suddenly, and permitted the dog to accompany her. Upon reaching her room she priceeded (as was her usual custom in strange house) to "get acquainted"—thrusting her wand" as she called her stout cane—into any niche the could not reach with her hands, while Brune sat assively watching her. He was used to his mistress' ways and her movements were interesting to him. de offered no objection until she approached the bed, when with a savage growl he sprang forward, placed them with a savage growl he sprang forward, placed limself between her and it, and, selzing her dress, ried to pull her away.



For a moment Blind Susan stood motionless. The room was utterly dark, though she did not realize it, for she had never known the light. That some danger threatened she was certain; that it was connected with the bed she was equally sure. The horrible suspense which was worse to bear than open at tack, urged her on, and she insisted, despite the repeated and touching attempts of. Bruno to deter her from it, in thoroughly investigating the bed, using her hands and cane in lieu of eyes. She found the bed and the lower part of the bedding (with the exception of the outer spread) to be firmly fastened to the sides of the bedstead, and also that the latter was of a peculiar model. With her cane she found an opening back of the bed, strongly suggestive of an open trap door.

By this time, Bruno, worn with anxiety and terror, had crouched in a corner, where he continued to groandismally, When he saw that his friend was ready to leave the place of danger, he came bounding to her, seizing her dress and pulling her into an easy chair where she remained through the night.

Blind Susan only tarried in the morning to settle her bill, proceeding directly to the authorities of the town to whom she told her strange experience and starling discoveries. Investigations were subsequently made, disclosing a large movable vat of boiling water in the cellar, trap-doors in the guests' rooms, the bedsteads all made after a peculiar model, moving upon an axie in the centre, which tipping backward precipitated the occupant through the trap latto the vat below. Farther search revealed human bones and skeletons with but very shallow burial in the sub-cellar, and quantities of trunks in the attic.

It is hardly necessary to say that the proprietors were brought to justice (though what their punishment was my grandmother never stated) and the building was razed to the ground. Blind Susan was not only rewarded for her prompt action in the matter, but she became in great demand as a violinist in the large cities and towns all over the surroundi

moving upon an axle in the centre, which tipping backward precipitated the occupant through the trap law the low. Farther search revealed human bones and skeletons with but very shallow burial in the sub-cellar, and quantities of trunks in the attic. It is hardly necessary to say that the proprietors were brought to justice (though what their punishment was my grandmother never stated) and the building was razed to the ground. Blind Susan was not only rewarded for her prompt action in the matter, but she became in great demand as a violinist in the large cities and towns all over the surrounding the large cities and towns all over the surrounding as the town of 8—ountry; and Bruno wore until his death a gold colcular, bearing a short but appropriate inscription, presented by the town of 8—ountry; and bruno wore until his death a gold colcular, bearing a short but appropriate inscription, presented by the town of 8—ountry; and Bruno wore until his death a gold colcular, bearing a short but appropriate inscription, presented by the town of 8—ountry; and Bruno wore until his death a gold colcular, bearing a short but appropriate inscription, presented by the town of 8—ountry; and Bruno wore until his death a gold colcular, bearing a short but appropriate inscription, presented by the town of 8—ountry; and Bruno wore until his death a gold colcular, bearing a short but appropriate inscription, presented by the town of 8—ountry; and Bruno wore until his death a gold colcular, bearing a short but appropriate inscription, presented by the town of 8—ountry; and Bruno wore until his death a gold colcular, bearing a short but appropriate inscription, presented by the town of 8—ountry; and Bruno wore until his death a gold colcular, bearing a short but appropriate inscription, presented by the town of 8—ountry; and Bruno wore from the face wore law and his sweet and an attural appearance. Can be intaches heave wire attaches beave wire attaches

perate struggle, but amid cries of "He's a pickpocket; throw him of!" he was lifted bodily and hurled from the flying train. Lucklly he fell in the midst of a huge drift, which, however filled his neck and sleeves with snow. By the time he had dug out his ears and eyes the train was disappearing in the distance. It took him two hours to break his way through to the next station, a distance of four miles, and they say he is the maddest man on earth.

THEN AND NOW.

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THEN AND NOW.

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MERICAN table-knivesare fit only for carving soup and apple-sauce."

It must be confessed that the man who made this statement was not far who made this statement was not far that an implement who has been in constant use for two or three thousand years, should not have been materially improved in this progressive country.

History tells us that in the time of Herodotus the knives used by Egyptian surgeons were of stone, as, in fact, they were always in ancient days. A surgeon's knife of that kind could not have had a very sharp edge, and when one tries to cut to the country.

History tells us that in the time of Herodotus the knives used by Egyptian surgeons were of stone, as, in fact, they were always in ancient days. A surgeon's knife of that kind could not have had a very sharp edge, and when one tries to cut to the day in the country, bring their begins of the country of the ancient stone knife.

English cutlery is of a much better quality than American. Indeed many European travellers in this country, bring their English knives over with them, and insist upon using them.

Up to the 12th century forks were unknown, as a table implement, although the Appian Way, and Greek writers speak of a fork used to lift meat from a boiling pot.

Records show that they were used at the table, however, in the 12th century. An inventory of a prince's plate in 1379 mentions them particularly. They came first into general use in Italy, and not there until the end of the 15th century. An old writer who says much in praise of an Italian king who was so graceful as to be able to eat with a fork and converse at the same time, without soiling his clothes, tell sus that even then (1490) meat was taken with the fingers, which for that reason were much stained with saffron, that being the favorite seasoning at that time.

At the close of of France, In the convent of St. Maur they were opposed as sinful by the old monks, when the progressive younger ones tried to use the

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BY SALLIE JOY WHITE.

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AS I not to tell you something about bonnets and hats this month?

It was my intention, but the lateness of the season has prevented it. Usually before this time the wholesale houses have had their openings, and the fashions have been exhibited, so that it has been possible to give the descriptions of what will be worn during the summer.

This year is an exceptional one, and none of the houses are ready, and will not be until later in the month.

It is altogether probable, however, if one may judge by the indications, that both hats and bonnets will remain very much as they are, the bonnets small and the hats large.

But as this is a year of sur-

both hats and bonnets will remain very much as they are, the bonnets small and the hats large.

But as this is a year of surprises in fashion, I would not dare to predict with any degree of certainty, regarding the new modes. Generally one who has watched the changing fashions for several seasons, can tell what is to come from what has gone immediately before. This year even the most astute are at good bit of curiosity to see what will be the outcome of the present condition.

Never in the history of modern fashion has there been such a complete over-turn of styles in mid-season as there has been this winter.

Of course there is a reason for it, and it is a very material one, not one that is born out of the caprice of the moment, as so many fashions are.

You know, for it has been a matter of congratulation among women, that the recent styles have called for a comparatively small amount of material for a dress. The result has been that the manufacturers, the world over, have found themselves with a quantity of goods on hand that they have been unable to sell, and many of them were on the verge of bankruptery. In their strait they appealed to the leading modistes for help. Some new fashion must be devised which should make it necessary for more cloth to be used in the gowns.

Since there is a mutual interdependence between the manufacturers and the dress-makers, this appeal was not allowed to go unregarded. And that is why in the mid-season word went out that skirts were to be fuller, and that is why you and I shall have our spring gowns made to measure four and a half yards around the foot, instead of a scant three yards as they have measured.

Did you ever think it possible that the amount of cloth you used in your dress would make the difference of success or failure to the manufacturers?

Well, it only serves to show how closely all human interests are bound together, and what seeming trides influence for ill or good.

But the full skirts do not necessarily mean a return of the hideous hoop-skirt, nor the re

known as the habit bodice, since it follows so closely the plain shaped, exquisitely fitting waist of the riding habit.

It is a round basque, not very deep, and cut away to show a gay vest of plaid or dotted silk and wool. One model is do u ble-breasted, with a notched silk faced collar. It is hooked down the middle, by the lining, then the outside is lapped over and buttoned by horn buttons. The top is then filled in with a little habit vest, with a high collar. All the edges are stitched once or twice. The sleeves are very large topped but are of coat shape.

The newest stuffs for woolen dresses are sleazily woven English basket cloths in small checks and the mixed tweeds. Violet and green are to be the popular colors this spring, and they appear in the new goods, sometimes in a solid color, but most often "shot" one into the other, or in alternate checks, or in rough threads like bourette.

Green prevails above all colors, and is seen with rosy mauve, with hellotrope, with lavender, with lilac, and with the darker purples. Green and tan is another favorite combination of the season, also green and rose.

which are standard spring colors, light grayish blues, old blue, and a blue which shades toward green.

The jacket effects are to be seen on many of the spring gowns, and they are as pretty and becoming as ever.



way she will make her dress serve many purposes.

It is the little economies of this kind, and the knowing how to exercise them, which makes it possible for some women to do more with a small amount of money, than others can do with a large income.

The new blouses are very pretty this spring, and they are just as stylish as they were last year. The truth is they are so convenient that women hate to let them go, especially, as they are just as becoming and stylish as they are convenient.

They are made from silks, light and dark, in plaids and in the gay Roman stiripes, and in the delicate fancy silks, the latter for evening wear at theatre or concert.

They are also made from the thinner India and China silks, both plain and figured, from cashmere and challie, and from percale and cambric, these last for the warm summer weather. For this later season there will be lovely blouses of nainsook, and muslin handsomely trimmed with embroidery and lace.

These will be worn with silk or other nice skirts.

Even if she is making us buy more material for our gowns, Fashion is considering the limited purses, and giving the opportunities of economy.



The newest stuffs for woolen dresses are sleazily woven English basket cloths in small checks and the mixed tweeds. Violet and green are to be the popular colors this spring, and they appear in the new goods, sometimes in a solid color, but most often "shot" one into the other, or in alternate checks, or in rough threads like bourette.

Green prevails above all colors, and is seen with rosy mauve, with heliotrope, with lavender, with lilac, and with the darker purples. Green and tan is another favorite combination of the season, also green and rose.

Among the other colors which will be a great deal remarks were are the tans grays and light browns.

The newest stuffs for woolen is allowing two fabrics and colors used in the same dress. One of her fancies is to have the full sleeves and jacket like that described above, of one material, while the skirt and vest are of another.

This is very convenient if one chances to have two dresses, which harmonize well, as they can be put together, and a stylish new dress evolved from two partly worn ones.

Sometimes too, it chances in shopping that one can buy, for a reduced price two remnants which will look well together. One piece must contain enough for the skirt and the puffs of the sleeves, while the other furnishes the waist and the close lower sleeves.

Among the other colors which will be a great deal remains the puffs were of tan color with hair line stripes of hunter's green. The close round waist was of plain tan cloth, with habit vest, collar and belt of green velvet.

Another economical arranges:ent has the skirt different from the entire waist and sleeves.

Some very quaint effects may be produced in this style, especially if one chances to have an old-fashioned brocade in the house which contains enough to make a high shirred waist and sleeves.

With this wear a skirt which is of plain color in one of the striking shades of the brocade, and finish with one of the old-fashioned hanging pockets, which our grandmothers used to wear, and which is just large enough to hold the dainty pocket handker-chief.

The girdles which are worn with the new blouses, are very pretty.

They are soft folds of silk or velvet, unlined and without bones, and are very useful in giving the round waist its proper dimensions. They can be made very wide and full for those who are too long and slight, while for large short waists they are narrowed and pointed in front, or else carried over the hips to increase the apparent length.

And a to sleeves.

There is really little that is new to be said.

The top is invariably puffed in some way. The drooping bell-puff widening towards the elbow now rivals the round balloon puff of Empire gowns. If very great fulness is required, two puffs are used, one long and full around the armhole with gathers in the joining seam, and a smaller puff above the elbow. A drooping frill about the elbow is now also very much used, whether of velvet like the puffs on a close lower sleeve, or else of lace to complete the sleeve.



All the ideas given in this article may be carried out in any of the fabrics which are in popular use this season, whether of the rough surfaced woolens, the smooth faced cloths, the lighter cashmeres, twills, serges, camel's-hair or Henrietta, or the challies and India silks.

Later models will be given for making the strictly summer gowns, such as cambrics, ginghams, and muslins, which, by the way, are to be very much worn this summer.

Not only plain white muslins, but lovely figured organdies, and the cool-looking, dainty dotted Swiss muslin, which has not been seen for several seasons, but which used to be such a favorite material. This is to be worn this summer, not only in white, but in the delicate blues, buff, pinks and lavenders.

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It is as harmless as dew and so simple a child can use it. It is highly recommended by Physician and its sure results warrant us in offering and its sure results warrant us in offering of the complexion.

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ONE DOLLAR BOTTLE FOR NOTHING THE DERMA-ROYALE COMPANY, Corner Baker & Vine Streets, CINCINNATI, OHIO





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\$100.00 IN CASH PRIZES \$100.00

The publishers take pleasure in announcing that in order to increase the common interest in this department, and to develop the inventive power and originality of COMFORT readers, they offer the following Cash prizes:

1st. A Cash prize of TWENTY DOLLARS (\$20) will be given for the best original and practical suggestion for use in this department.

2nd. A Cash prize of FIFTEEN DOLLARS (\$15) will be given for the Second best suggestion in the same line.

3rd. A Cash prize of ten dollars (\$10) for the next best.

best.
4th. A Cash prize of seven dollars and fifty cents (\$1.50) for the next.
5th. A Cash prize of five dollars (\$5) for the next.
6th. A Cash prize of three dollars (\$3) for the next.
7th. Ten Cash prizes of two dollars (\$2) each for the next ten and
8th. Twenty Cash prizes of one dollar (\$1) each for the next twenty, making 36 prizes in all to be given for such suggestion as rank in the above order of merit.

CONDITIONS.

CONDITIONS.

Competitors must be yearly paid-up subscribers to Comport; and in addition must send at least one new yearly subscriber, with twenty-five cents, the price of one year's subscription to Comport for each new subscriber so sent.

Letters must be received before September first; and awards will be published in the October issue.

Letters must be written plainly on one side of the paper only.

Letters must be short, plain, explicit and contain no superfluods words.

Descriptions must be short, plain, explicit and contain an superflued words.

No manuscript well be returned.

Descriptions may cover fancy articles, gifts for old and young, designs in drawn-work, embroidery, etc. Only such patterns of knitting and crocheting will be considered as are of exceptional merit and originality. Designs for internal and external decorations of the house may be entered in the contest, or suggestions on any topic contributing to home confort or individual happiness. Illustrations of articles suggested, when possible, will add to the value of letters. Designs or suggestions must be absolutely original with the writer, never having appeared in print before, and not copied from books or other sources.

print before, and not copied from books of other sources.

No communication will be considered that is not sufficiently stamped, and accompanied by the writer's full name and address.

The conditions are fully given here and consequently no letters of inquiry or of a personal nature will be answered.

Articles will be judged on merit alone.

Competition positively closes September first.

The publishers reserve the right to use any suggestions submitted which may not be awarded a prize.

All communications must be fully prepaid and addressed to BUSY BEE, Care of Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

VERY mother occasionally finds herself at her wits' ends to contrive something new for the youngsters which shall amuse them and at the same time give them the sense of employment.

There is no child who does not enjoy the feeling of responsibility which comes with a task agreeably imposed, especially if the result is tangible and pleasing.

It is not always easy to find the something which brings this desirable result.

More than

sult. More than

anything else the Kindergarten has met this need, met this need, and mothers the world over owe a debt of gratitude to the memory of Fredrich Froebel which they can never repay.

Can never repay.

Among the prettiest and most pleasing of the things which it is possible for the little "Busy Bees" to achieve with their tiny fingers are the gay worsted balls which make such satisfactory play-things after they are finished.

tiny fingers are the gay worsted balls which make such satisfactory play-things after they are finished.

The work requires patience and persistence, and much care. But with mother at hand to direct and encourage, and to give the needed bit of help at the proper moment, the little workers will make these balls very nicely.

They must not be kept at the work too long at a time or they will lose interest, and what was intended for a pastime will become a drudgery. At the first sign of weariness, and before the enthusiasm has begun to lag, take the work away, and so make the return to it an anticipation, and not a dread.

A mother who per-

and not a dread.

A mother who permits a child to become tired over a piece of work like this defeats her own intention.

But to come to the making of the ball, which the mother must understand in order to give the necessary instruction.

If the ball is to be a "bouncer"—and where is the child who cares a penny for a ball, no matter how gay and pretty it is, that doesn't bounce?—you will want a rubber centre. To get this take some pieces of rubber, bits of an old over-shoe will answer the purpose, cut into narrow strips and wind tightly until you have a roll about the size of an English walnut for the centre of the ball.

Wind about this, very evenly, so as to keep the shape perfectly round, worsted ravellings. The leg of an old woollen stocking, or anything

of the kind which will give the wool may be

used.

When the ball is of the size required fasten the worsted securely, so that it will not un-Then take a darning-



should be closely done completely covering the foundation, and allowing none of the cord to be visible.

When one section is done work the next in the same manner, and so proceed until the sections are all worked. A companion ball may be made by making the foundation in the same manner, and working the stripes around the ball instead of up and down.

By a judicious use foolers very pretty a given a

down.

By a judicious use of colors very pretty effects may be made, and the child be given a practical lesson in color and artistic combination as well as in handiwork.

In this way, the mother may give the child at home, the principles of the Kindergarten, which makes every act a part of education, and trains at once the physical, the mental and the moral sense.

CROCHETED SLIPPERS.

trains at once the physical, the mental and the moral sense.

CROCHETED SLIPPERS.

Do not undertake the task of making this crocheted slipper unless you have a stock of patience, and are exact in following directions, for I warn you to begin with that while the result is very good when the work is properly done, yet it is easily spoiled if the worker allows herself to become at all careless.

For a pair of No. 4 solippers you will require six balls of No. 300 Florence knitting silk, four balls being of silver gray, and two balls of light blue, a No. 1 Star crochet needle, a pair of No. 4 soles and a yard of ribbon an inch and three quarters wide.

There are two crocheted sections in each slipper, one of which is shown in diagram, the other is a long straight piece which makes the ornamental top, and is sewed on after the slipper itself is made.

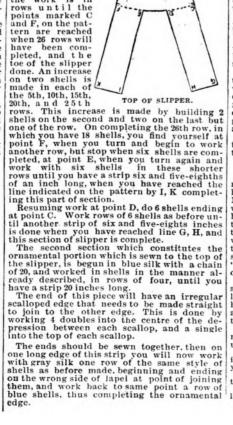
Begin work with gray silk on the larger section at the point marked A and work in rows in the width as follows.

First Row.—Chain 36.

Second Row.—Turn, and counting back, do 5 doubles into the 4th stitch of the chain, do 1 single into the 8th stitch of the chain, 2, do 5 doubles into the 12th stitch of the chain. Repeat from *into the 16th, 20th, 24th, 28th, and 32d stitches of the chain, and finish the row by doing 1 single into the 36th stitch of the chain.

Third Row.—Turn, chain 2, do 5 doubles into the stitch into which you worked the last single of the preceding row, do 1 single into the chain of two made also in the previous row, *chain 2, do 5 doubles into space between the two last stitches of the group of 5 doubles, do 1 single into chain two next following, repeat from *six times more, forming a shell in each of the spaces between the two last stitches of the previous row; this differs from the other shells and it is absolutely necessary that the last shell of this and all other rows be finished at this point, else the edge of the work will draw up as you progress.

Fourth Row.—Turn same as the third, for m in g eight shells. The further progress of the cond



The scolloped ends of the slipper indicated on the pattern by the lines G, H, I, K, are to be made straight as were the ends on the ornamental section, and then joined.

Sew the lapel to the body of the slipper. Between the lapel and the main part introduce a piece of elastic cord twelve and a half inches long sewed together at the ends. Turn down the lapel and sew along the gray row of shells to the body of the slipper, as seen in the illustration.



CROCHETED SLIPPER.

CROCCHETED SLIPPER.

Now sew the upper to the sole, basting the lower edge of the upper to the edge of the sole, the upper being wrong side out.

Begin the basting at the toe and hold the work full while sewing around that portion of the sole. When the sewing is completed turn the shoe inside out. This is troublesome, but is accomplished after a little effort, both sole and upper being flexible.

The bow on the front is made to suit the taste of the maker.

The soles of various kinds are for sale at the notion and shoe stores. The edges of these are bound with worsted braid of various colors, and they should be selected in harmony with the color of the silk as the edge of the body of the slipper is sewed to the inner edge of the sole, leaving the binding braid exposed.

This description is for a No. 4 slipper done snugly. No one must expect to obtain the same result with looser work, coarser needle, or silk of doubtful brand or size. For other sizes, careful calculation must be made, but with the right materials any intelligent worker can make a pair of slippers in this pattern.

For convenience the following measurements are given of an upper for a No. 4 slipper, as shown in the pattern.

From A to B, three and seven-eights inches.

"C to D, two inches.

"E to F, ""

"A to G, nine and three-quarters inches.

"B to K, ""

"The armount in pages, a langle head of the sole, and the search and search and the sea

From A to B, three and seven-eights inches.

" C to D, two inches.

" E to F, " "

" G to H, " "

" I to K, " "

" D to E, " "

" A to G, nine and three-quarters inches.

" B to K, " " " " " "

The ornamental piece or lapel should measure one and five-eighths inches in width, and 20 inches in length.

In making other sizes it will be advisable to cut out a paper pattern shaped like the one given here, but of larger or smaller dimension to suit, which may be used as a guide in the work.

These slippers will make most lovely and acceptable gifts for the next holiday season, having all the convenience of the worsted slipper with a great deal more beauty. per wit beauty.

GLOVE MENDING

GLOVE MENDING
OUTFIT.

A most convenient thing
for every woman to have on
her work table or as an adjunct to her glove case is a
glove mending outfit. It is
easy to make, and it may be
as costly or as inexpensive as
the means of the maker shall
allow.

glove mending outh. It is easy to make, and it may be as costly or as inexpensive as the means of the maker shall allow.

You will require for the outh, a ring, of the size and shape of the rubber ones which are given to children to cut their teeth on, a pair of tiny scissors, a "finger," to insert into the glove, when sewing rips, a braid of assorted glove silks or threads, some pretty bits of silk or ribbon to make a needle-book and a small bag to hold glove buttons, so me fine white flannel or cashmere for leaves to the book, about six yards of narrow ribbon and half a yard of ribbon in the same color, about an inch and a half wide.

If you wish to make the outh costly, you may have the ring, the "finger," and the tops of the scissors of silver. But if on the contrary, you wish to have something that is pretty and at the same time inexpensive, while just as useful, you will have the scissors of good steel, the "finger" and ring of ivory or celluloid.

Fasten the braid of silk on to the ring by doubling it on it and catching with a few stitches; on either side tie on the scissors, "finger," button bag, and needle-book, with the narrow ribbon in varying lengths. Tie a bow of the wider ribbon at the top of the ring, and the outfit is complete.

You have no idea what a convenience it is for your own personal use, and it makes the nicest little gift for Christmas and birthdays.

During the past two or three days I have been watching the progress of two which are for birthdays that come on the same day during the next month.

One is in old rose, the needle-book and button bag in lovely art silk showing old rose and white in the design, the ring and "finger" of celluloid in the same soft shading, and the ribbons in the darkest of the rose shades. The other is in blue and white. The ring and "finger" are in white, the ribbons in light blue, and the silk white ground with a blue design.

It is hard to tell which is the prettier of the two, but each suits the particular "sweet sixteen" for which it is intended.

THE LITTLE COMFORTER.

One of Com-ort's editors FORT'S editors has been in Nassau this winter, as you have seen by the charming hings he has the wonderful sights in the eautiful Isle of June Of course, like

Of course, like all good travellers, he brought home many rare and curious things, as well as some that are most convenient. Among them was "The little Comforter," a most appropriate title, when all its possible uses are considered.

Our special artist furnishes a very pretty sketch of it, so you may all see how it looks, and copy it for yourselves if you choose.

In Nassau they are used to set the teacups on at the fashionable five o'clock teas.
They are also used to hold the pots containing large flowering plants.

But there is really no end to the purposes they may

serve, being just the thing to place beside the invalid's chair for the glass of water, the bowl of gruel, the book or magazine, or the very last number of COMPORT.

lid's chair for the glass of wafer, the bowl of gruel, the book or magazine, or the very last number of Comport.

They can be carried to the piazza to hold the workbasket. They can be used for a seat, as they will slip into any corner, and take up no extra room.

They are just the sort of thing that every woman would like and can find a use for.

And this she may do easily. If she lives in the country, near the woods, she may get three natural pieces of wood, small branches of trees with the bark left on, have them sawed to the right length, about the height of an ordinary chair, get a piece of board out in heart shape and fasten the legs to it. The rustic legs should be varnished, and the top may be finished in any way she chooses. It may be smoothed and polished to show the natural grain of the wood, and with the rustic legs this seems the most appropriate finish, or it may be painted in a floral design, upholstered with any material which the maker chooses, or it may have an ornamental cushion tied on by ribbons.

If it is impossible to get the rustic legs, you may use three inexpensive canes, or get the carpenter to turn you a set of legs. Or, if you are strong in the hands, you may take three discarded brooms, cut off the handles, sandpaper them to the requisite smoothness, and use them.

When the top is on, chonize the stand, or finish it with white enamel paint. The result will be a very ornamental as well as useful bit of furniture.

I did not tell you what the top of the original one was, did I?

It was a palm-leaf fan from which the handle had been cut.

It was a palm-leaf fan from which the handle had

been cut.

I hope you will all be ready to set to work in earnest to become prize winners in the coming contest in this department. I expect that we shall discover a great deal of artistic talent in this immense family of ours.

ours.

Remember one thing, it is not merely "Art for Art's sake," but there must be also the idea of utility.

BUSY BEE.

BUST Wrinkles and Complexion. 4 samples worth \$1.00 for 10—2c. stamps QUEEN TOILET CO., Detroit, Mich.

A BEAUTIFUL CRAZY quitt of 500 sq. of 60 spiendid Silk pes, asstd. bright colors, 25c; 5 package, \$1. Agents Wanted. Lemarie's Silk Misls, Little Ferry, N.J.

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DING, DONG, BELL!

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"R H Y M I N G and the chiming of the bells" began long before the time of Edgar Allen Poe. In fact, bells date back to the earliest antiquity. The old Hebrew writers speak of them; and in Exodus XX VIII the golden bells on the dress of the high priests are spoken of. The early Greeks used them as military and camp signals. Plutarch speaks of them as used in the household. So did the Romans, also, who announced the time for bathing by hand-bells. Going still further back, the feast of Osiris—an ancient Egyptian festival when they sacrificed to their gods—was announced by them. The ancients used cow-bells, hand-bells, church-bells, and in fact almost every kind of bell imaginable.

Church bells were first used by St. Paulinos, bishop of Nola, in Campania, in the year 400 A.D. They reached England and France in the early 7th century, and the first churches seem to have been furnished with the bell or Campanile tower.

Chimes of bells, after a simple fashion, were used previous to the year 870, when the abbot Turketulus died, who had already started a chime at Croyland, England.

The ringing of the curfew bell was introduced into England before the Norman conquest and remained

previous to the year 870, when the abbot Turketulus died, who had already started a chime at Croyland, England.
The ringing of the curfew bell was introduced into England before the Norman conquest and remained in vogue until the 18th century. It was not entirely a sentimental custom, but was a signal prescribed by law, to warn the citizens to put out the fires which in those days threatened great danger to the thatched villages. Other ancient uses of the church-bell-such as tolling for the dead, pealing in celebration of marriages, or clanging to give alarm in case of fire, public danger, are still retained in many places.
The largest bell ever cast, is the one called Cast Kolokol (king of bells) in Moscow. It was cast in 1733 and weighs 433,772 pounds. The value of the metal in this bell alone is over \$300,000. It is 19 feet high and over 80 feet in circumference. In fact it is so large that it was never hung. Some falling timbers broke a small piece from its side in 1737, and the aperture serves as a door. In 1837 the bell was raised upon a granite pedestal and afterwards consecrated as a chapel. The room is 22 feet in diameter and 21 high. The largest bell in use as a bell is also in Moscow and weighs 148 tons.



WARRIOR'S BELL.

Among other noted bells of the world is one at Kioto, Japan, cast in 1633 and weighing 155,760 pounds. Others are Le Bourdon at Notre Dame, Paris, weighing 17 tons; one at Sens Cathedral, of 16 tons; one at Amiens, of 11 tons. "Big Ben" in Westminster Cathedral, London, weighs 13 tons, "Great Peter," at York weighs 10, and "Great Tom" at Oxford, 7 tons.

The Bell of Notre Dame, Montreal, is larger than any in England, and weighs 29,400 pounds, and was imported in 1843. The United States however, has few bells of large size. The largest one ever here weighed about 23,000 pounds. It was cast in Boston, and was used as the alarm bell formerly on the city hall at New York.

There is one bell that possesses great interest for every patriotic soul in America. This is the "liberty bell" in Philadelphia. This bell is at Independence Hall, and was the first to peal the Declaration of Indepence, July 4th, 1776. It was imported from England in 1752, but having been cracked on trial, was recast in Philadelphia, when the prophetic inscription was placed upon it from Leviticus XXV, 10. "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof." Immediately beneath this is another, giving dates, and uses of the bell. It was removed to Lancaster during the occupancy of Philadelphia by the British in 1777, but was back again in time for the first Fourth of July celebration in America. It was used as a state house bell until 1828. It was rong for the last time in honor of a visit from Henry Clay to Philadelphia, when, unfortunately, it was cracked, and soon after was retired to its present resting place, where it has received the homage of many a patriotic citizen.

The oldest bell in America is in the little chapel of San Miguel, at Santa Fe, New Mexico. It was brought here over three hundred years ago, and was two hundred,

The manufacture of fine bells is an art requiring skill and nicety, but yet there is hardly a savage tribe in the world but what has a fashion of its own for making

dred years old then, making it now over five hundred.

The manufacture of fine bells is an art requiring skill and nicety, but yet there is hardly a savage tribe in the world but what has a fashion of its own for making bells. Doubtless the first idea of a bell was a simple and savage gong. Wild Africans and uncultivated Indians and Esquimaux to-day contrive something which answers the purpose of a bell. E ast African mothers teach their babies to walk by fastening tiny metal bells to its ankles. The little one thrusts a foot forward, attracted by the tinkling, and then tries the other; and, much sooner than our babies learn how, they are toddling off on their cown feet. The dances of their eiders are in time to the music of gongs and the African warriors always wear them.

In short, the lowest savages

African warries, them. In short, the lowest savages of our own time and the In short, the lowest savages of our own time and the aborigines of the remotest antiquity differ but little in their conception and use of the bell or gong. Who knows, indeed, but that Eve may have taught Cain and Abel to walk by the use of bells which Adam made for her?



Three Hundred and Fifty Years Old.

Written for COMPORT.

Mexico, was probably known to white men before any other part of the United States; and there are several traces left of Coro-



THE OLDEST HOUSE IN AMERICA relics of the Spanish Conquerors in Santa Fe, one of the most notable being the adobe house which habeen used as the executive mansion ever since 1680.

THROUGH THE DARK.

BY GEORGE M. BROWN.

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Then in the garret of the house in which the marriage ceremony was performed, in the old oaken chest, the remains of the beautiful bride were found.

Some forty years ago in a city in Scotland, a similar tragedy occurred, only it was more intense and thrilling than the one cited above, and sent a wave of horror from one end of the land to the other.

James and Charles will populous city of Glasgow. They were ten and twelve years of age respectively. Their father owned a large lumber yard. Every Saturday afternoon the lads spent playing in the yard with their cousin Charlle, a bright boy about their own age, and their inseparable companion. Indeed where one of these youngaters was seen the other two wares are to be within halling distance.

They had been more than usually boisterous and happy on the Saturday to which our story refers. All day they had romped over the logs and ective and marry laughter filled the summer air. Feeling somewhat fagged out toward evening they went up to the hayloft. While rolling among the straw and hay their eyes fell upon the bean chest—a large old-fashioned affair in which the driver kept his oats and beans. In this chest were three compartments each one being large enough to hold one person. With a wild yell the lads jumped into the chest, the lid was accidently touched, and down it came covering them with utter darkness. They were prisoners:

of chure, It had an old-fashioned hasp on its lock which could only be opened from the outside. The little prisoners tried hard to open, but their efforts were useless. The more they pressed the firmer became the lock that held them. They cried and prayed for deliverance, but no one heard through the long black night.

As darkness fell and they did not return home for exercipt into the parent's hearts that strange feeling of anxiety that takes possession of a mother's heart when the first alarm for the safety of her children serves here they are how the summintained all night no tidings of the missing boys could be found. Next morning the c

CANCER AND ITS CURE.

Drs. McLeish & Weber. 123 John St., Cincinnati, O., have made the treatment of Cancer a specialty for twenty years. Their success is set forth in a "Treatise" mailed free to anyone.

the United States; and there are several traces left of Coronado, the first Spanish explorer in the interior.

Among the curious old fashions of that region, was the way of building houses of adobe. Most of the former residences of the people there in old times were "doby houses." They were constructed of a kind of clay, which, when taken from the earth is softenough to be cut in bricks, with which the buildings are easily and quickly constructed. The hot sun, which beats fercely down on that country the year round, soon dries the adobe clay, until it is nearly as hard as stone, and a building made from it, lasts for many years.

In Santa Fe is still standing an old adobe house, in good preservation. It is known to have been built in 1540, and is in more habitable shape than many erected in the last century. Tradition says this house was occupied by Francisco Vasquez de Coronado, the great explorer. Close by it stands the old church of San Miguel which was built

during the Pueblo revolution. It was rebuilt in 1710 and is still used for purposes of worship, the Mexicans and half-FOR COMFORT CLUB GETTERS

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a book of instruction and the Morse alphabet are sent free.
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The cut shows the instrument in miniature form. We send the Morse "Perfect" Telegraph Instrument securely packed in a box, with book of instructions and Morse alphabet on a card, all complete for 25 cents each, or three for 60 cents, by mail, post-paid.
Given for a Club of three yearly Subscribers at 25 cents each. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

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Jim along Josie.
Jim crack corn.
Johnny Sands.
Jack Ratlin.
Juanita.
Killarney.
Kitt Tyrell.

Buy a broom.
Buy a broom.
Buy of Biscay.
Boy of Biscay.
Boung boat.
Bob up serenely.
Biue eyed Mary.
Brave Wolfe.
Bachelor's fare.
Bessy's mistake.
Canaan.
Caller Herrin'.
Captain Jiuks.
Captain Megan.
Coal black Rose.
Crooskeen lawn.
Dearest Mae.
Duncan Gray,
Ding dong bell.
Dolly Varden.
Dram on.
Do not mingle.
Dream song.
Ever of thee. CONTENTS: Ah, how death.
Anvil chorus.
Ah, my words.
A sailor's love.
A love song.
Annie Laurie.
Auld lang syne.
Auld Grey Kirk.
Alice Gray.
Bye and bye.
Believe me.
Betsey Baker.
Bryan O'Lyun.
Bobbin' around.
Bonnie Doon. And Grey Kirk.
Bye and bye.
Believe me.
Betsey Baker.
Betsey Bo

iles Serves.
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Forget me not. Garibaldi hymn. Girls and Boys. Giles Scroggins. Gilderoy.

Jack Ratlin. Juanita.
Killarney.
Kilty Tyrrell.
Kathleen Aroon.
Last night.
Lord Lovell.
Lullaby.
Little flowers.
Lou'siana belle.
Lucy Neal.
Langan's ball.
Langan's ball.
Law.

My country.
Miss Wrinkle.
Maggie's secret.
My queen.
Mollie Mogg.
Mollie Bawn.
My Annie, O's.
Mary Morrison.
Miniature.
Money musk.
My sweetheart.

Over there.
Oh, Mr. Coon.
Old Joe.
Ole Pee Dee.
Old King Crow.
Oh, Arabella.
Peor old maids.
Pesky Ike.
Paddy Snap.
Polly.

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In the line of our hundreds of low priced and reliable specialties, we now manifacture this Complete Photographing Outfit, which will be our leader during the coming season. This outfit consists of everything shown in cut and mentioned below; A strong and perfectly made CAMKRA, which will take a picture 21-2 inches square, complete with adjustable holder for Plate and PRIFECT LENS with eag; A package of the renowned "Harvard Dry Plates; 2 Japanned Tin Developing, Trays, 1 Printing Frame; 1 package Blue Process Paper; 1 sheet Ruby Paper; 1 package Photo Mounts; Hyposulphite Soda; Developing Chemicals; complete and explicit instructions, enabling Asyrome to take ANY CIRES with this Outfit. Now please remember that you are not buying a Camera ONLY but a complete and reparter of the work perfectly. A wonder to all who see it and tits work. You are not restricted to any class of pictures. You can take Landscapes, Portraits, Buildings, in fact Anymeters and friends that are dear, do you encounter every day whose image you would like to preserve? With this Outfit you can do it and almost without expense. It contains all the necessary materials. The instructions "do the rest." PRICE ONLY \$1.00 by express, by mail postoald \$1.15, Given for a club of 8 sub-cribers to COMPORT at 25 cents each.

Or if you would like to secure a larger and more expensive Outfit Firek, send for our complete Catalogue and Premium List, We have a grand Outfit for \$2.50 and the Eclipse, No. 3, for only \$10.00. We will send extra sample copies of this grand April Number of Compont, together with subscription blanks so that it will be an easy matter for you to obtain subscribers and secure an outfit at once so you can build up a large business this season.



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One Regulation Size Differential Chart,
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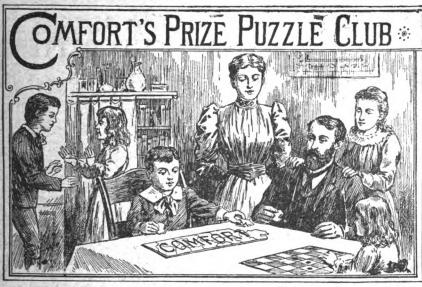
alone is \$2.00.

But to every one who will get up a club of six subscribers for Comfort at 25 cents per year, each in advance, we will send one of these Comfort Outits FREE, we paying all express and mailing charges. By showing a copy of Comfort to your neighbors, friends, and acquaintance, you can easily get up a club in one evening; for COMFORT, with its many improvements and new, original, copyrighted departments, now needs only to be seen to be appreciated. To those who do not care to go to the trouble of getting a club, we will send COMFORT for one year, together with one of these Outits (all express and mailing charges paid by us) upon receipt of one dollar. This offer holds good for three months only. months only.

Ladies can make lots of money quickly, easily, and pleasantly. Write us at once for rms to agents.

MORSE & CO., Augusta, Maine.

terms to agents.



Correspondence in this department should be addressed to Oldcastle, Utica, N. Y. Correct name and address should accompany every communication, even when a nom de plume is used.

address should accompany every communication, even when a nom de plume is used.

Full particulars in regard to the changes planned for this department—a mention of which was made in the March issue of COMFORT—will be printed here in the May issue. These changes will be most interesting to all subscribers, as they include large cash prizes for the most novel and original puzzles. The changes proposed make it advisable that this departments should, like all of COMFORT'S other departments be conducted from the home office. Therefore, all those interested in puzzles will take notice that the "Mystic Castle" will hereafter be known as "The Prize Puzzle Club," and that beginning with the May issue, and from that time on, all communications for it should be addressed Editor, Prize Puzzle Club, "COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. All communications up to and including the April issue should be addressed as heretofore, Oldcastle, Utica, N. Y. All who have been interested in "The Mystic Circle" are sure to be more entertained by "The Prize Puzzle Club."

Readers having mastered COMFORT'S plan for the future of this department, can now sit down to solve the last tasks set them by "The Mystic Circle."

Solvers to January Mysteries:—"Doc," 12; W. E. Wiatt, 11; Rosabel, 10 1-2; Waldemar, Miss Blauche Bancroft, 9; Bglantine, 8 1-2; Essay and Ypsie, 8; Frank, So So, Beb, 5; F. I. Don't, Thinker, 41-2; Cowboy, Phil, Locust, Lomax, Phonnie, Hope, Julia McKinley, Pen, Bureka, 4; Misses Josie and Daisy Bourjal, Tyro, 3; G. Whizz, 2; Miss Ida George, 1. Prize-winners:—1. Doc. 2. W. E. Wiatt. 3. Rosabel. Specials:—1. Cowboy. 2. Phonnie.
Accepted contributions:—Bourgeois, Joan of Arc, W. E. Wiatt, 4; Lomax, 3; Aspiro, Tyro, Hi A. Watha, 2.

PRIZE WORD HUNT.

The following prizes will be awarded to the senders the six largest lists of words found in the name, Columbus," complying with the conditions given

below.

1. A year's subscription to a fine monthly maga-

e.

A Splendid stamping outfit.

A nice book.
One year's subscription to COMFORT.
Webster's Handy Dictionary.
100 Complete Stories.
n appropriate prize will be awarded, for the best learing list outside of those winning the above 15%. CONDITIONS.

CONDITIONS.

1. Every competitor must be a yearly, paid up subscriber to Comport. If you are not a subscriber, now is a good time to send your subscription.

2. All words found in the main body of Webster's International Dictionary, are allowable.

3. Abbreviations, prefixes, suffixes, plurals, proper names, etc., are not allowable.

4. No letter can be used more than once in a word with the exception of the letter U, which appears twice in Columbus.

5. A word can be used but once no matter how many meanings it may have, but if it has two or more ways of being spelled, they will be credited if sanctioned by Webster.

6. Arrange words alphabetically, write with ink, on one side of the paper only; write name and address at head of list and number each word. Address to Oldcastie, Utica, N. Y.

7. In case of ties, lists first received will be given the preference.

Competition closes June 1. The result will be announced in July Comport.

Solutions to January's Mysteries.

SOLUTIONS TO JANUARY'S MYSTERIES.

No. 359. The "rail-splitter." No. 360. Infinite. No. (2.) No. (2)

P LI PLUMMET IMMANE MAIAN ENAMEL MAR
DONET
DUSTMEN
MOSCHATEL
ANTHORHEAS REMARKERS

No. (3.) HUSO UZEMA SENILE OMINATE ALARUM No. (2.) DORA
OBOLE
ROTULA
ALUMINA
ELIXIR ANILE EMEN No. 377. Diana. No. 378. "For we have No. 376.

seen his star in the east.

No. 379. Whither, wither. ZCUR
DAMET
HARICOT
JAMACINAS
PACATER
RACES
LID
D No. 380. RAMEAL ABOLLA MODELS

MYSTERIES. No. 407. Numerical.

The 5, 4, 3, 6, 8, 9, 17, 16, 19, 11 is a high degree of re-

The 12, 6, 21, 1, 19, 20, 22 is grave.

The 12, 6, 21, 1, 19, 20, 22 is grave.

The 13, 14, 15, 2, 4, 7 is an article of food.

The 18, 10, 3, is a small but useful instrument.

The whole, composed of 22 letters, is an old proverb.

Washington, Pa.,

Will.

No. 408. Hidden Provers.
As falsehood counts not on the cost
Of her misdeeds, let truth beware.
The citadel shall guarded be
Against designs to make some snare,
That would enchain her to your wish.
I caution you, be free, beware.
San Francisco, Cal.,
No. 400. Half Square.

OEDIPUS. No. 409. Half Square.

1. A country. 2. Ounce by ounce. 3. Critically surveyed. 4. One employed in the tin mines. 5. Species of deer. 6. A low word for after. 7. A cover.

8. A contraction. 9. A letter. Norris City, Ill.,

No. 400. Anagram. A painter struck our town last week, And to each man for all did speak. But when it came to painting red, "I out stain anyone," he said.
Grafton, Ills.,

LOMAX.

No. 411. Square. 1. A fox of Northern Africa. 2. A State of the Union. 3. P. O. Macoupin Co., Ill. 4. Omitting. 5. Consisting of thin plates or layers. 6. Issuing forth. 7. Ornamental circlets. Ridge, Oregon, No. 412. Square.

1. A Greek or Latin proper name. 2. A very hard stone. 3. Loose scales on stems of plants, (Bot.) 4. One who improves. 5. A fillet used in binding up wounds. 6. A whole number. 7. Those who look fixedly. South Acworth, N. H.,

No. 413. Enigma. In me behold two spirits dwell,
Weak is one and one is strong;
But each as bloody a tale could tell,
As found in prose or song.

As round in prose or song.

A gentle stream, I onward flow, Oft yielding to control;
But care not where my waters go, Except the drunkard's bowl.

I've heard the cannon's loudest roar, I've seen the bravest fall;
While battling with a tyrant's power,
To break a tyrant's thrall.

Again. a gallant this I think

Again, a gallant ship I stand. And skim the ocean's wave; While bearing to his native land, The bravest of the brave. Gloucester, C. H. Va.,

W. E. WIATT. No. 414. Charade.

The emblem I of man's disgrace, Hated alike of every race. Sometimes an ornament am I, And dearly prized by beauty's eye.

And dearly prizes by Manager II.

At night when all is dark and still, I wander forth to do man ill. I strive for what he values most, Which he would save at any cost.

WHOLE.
I am the saddest sight to see!
Good people oft have wept for me,
Distressed that such a thing should be.
Richmond, Va.,
JOAN OF ARC.
No. 415. Rhomboid.

Across. 1. The act of giving way. 2. Noisy talkers. 3. Price paid for the conveyance of a letter. 4. Those who roof houses with slate. 5. Melancholy. 6. Places where gold is found. 7. Eminent skill.

Down. 1. A letter. 2. A child's name for father.
3. At the same time, (obs.) 4. A narrow piece of
board. 5. To fix. 6. A rambler. 7. An oil obtained
from castoreum. 8. Enrolls. 9. To alarm. 10.
Sedges, (obs.) 11. Anger. 12. A bone. 13. A letter.
Ardmore, Pa.,
REMARDO.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

For the best list, Mammoth Stamping Outfit.

year.
Specials:—Two appropriate prizes will be awarded by lot among the rest of the solvers. Contest closes June 1. Solutions, solvers and prize winners in July Mystle Castle.

MYSTIC CHAT.

Mystic Chat.

Mystic Chat.

The word-hunt contest is opened this month and we hope to have a hearty response from all.—Rosabel:—You have done well on your first trial.—Tyro:—One of the squares appears in this issue. The batch of cons you sent are fine.—Many new departments have been received. Oldcastle wishes to thank their respective editors for them.—All prizes awarded up to March 1 have been sent to the winners.—Geogebic:—Glad to hear from you.—Subscriptions to COMPORT, should be addressed to Publishers of Comport should be addressed to be subscriptions to Comport of the "Krewe" who have been silent for a while. We would like to receive a list of solutions from each of the following old-timers: N. Igma, R. O. Chester, Lucile, Blanc, Chance, Thisbe, Agricola, S. Payne, Sphinx, Calo, Nosneb Benson, Ignoramus, Solver, A. F. B., Harold, Arty Fishel, Fancy, Hercules, Ajax, Veritas, Ed Ward, Eugene, C. E. Bechtel, Ray, Sweet Lilac and Bill Queer.—Hope:—Your puzzles are not intricate enough. Try again.

Your Mystic Friend, OLDCASTLE,

A VALUABLE SECRET.

No woman, married or single, should neglect to send to The Tokene Company, 232 Devonshire Street, Boston, Mass., for a copy of the Tokene Book-let, issued for free presentation exclusively to women. let, issued for free presentation exclusively to women. Aside from being the most artistic pamphlet ever gotten up in America—its cover is lithographed in no less than twelve colors—it treats in a straightforward, common-sense manner, of an entirely new discovery which cannot but prove a boon to the sex. It has absolutely nothing in common with patent medicines or novelty schemes, and the woman who fails to read it misses a secret which may bring her boundless happiness, and even save her life.



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INDIAN BUCKSKIN MOCCASINS FOR BABY

Are all the craze! because they are the softest, warmest, handsomest and cutest little shoes ever made. Every mother buys them, and is delighted with them. Hundreds of testimonials received. Being beautifully embroidered and well made, they are a useful and beautiful gitt. No more suffering and crying infants with deformed feet caused by wearing the stiff, ill-shaped shoes bought in the stores. With all the experiments for dress-reform and hygienic clothing, the foot-covering for babies has been very faulty. In spite of the truth that the INDIAN BUCKSKIN MOCCASIN makes a correct infant's shoe, a great number of our little tots are still left to endure the hard, rough, shoddy, old-time footwear. The moccasin is pliable and pleasant to the touch, and more lucky children will soon learn, the comfort it gives. In order that you may have a chance to give them a trial on your own or someone's clse baby. The Publishers of Comfort, Augusta, Maine, have arranged to give a certain number of pairs away All that is required, is for you to send a club of 4 yearly subscribers to Comfort at 25c, each; they come from 3 to 6 inches in length state size when ordering and if not convenient to secure a club now a sample pair will be forwarded postpaid for 75c, form the club and they will be sent perfectly free, all charges paid by Comfort Publishers.

A Chi-d's Love for a Doll.

A Chi d's Love for a Doll.

HAS OFTEN BEEN COMMENTED ON. - READ APOUT THE NEW STYLE DOLLS.



handsome dollie as nice as her own sweet self.

To introduce these goods at once, and add another million to "COMPORTS" eleven hundred thousand circulation, we will send one doll absolutely free (all charges paid by us) to every three-months' trial subscriber enclosing 15 cents; two subs. and two dolls 25 cts., 5 for 50 cts. Many make money selling these dolls. Send one dollar for tweetee, and try it.

Address MORSE & CO., Box 235 Augusta, Maine.

PEOPLE BUY THEM BY THE HUNDREDS. In ordering the second lot here is what one Lady says:
15 Concert St., Keokuk, Iowa.

MORSE & Co.,
Sirs:—Dolls received. Enclosed find money order, for which send me fifty (50) more of your indestructible dolls, express paid. Please send soon as you can, as I already have orders for a number of them. Mothers and children seem equally delighted with the dolls.

MRS. W. H. FOUTS.

JUST THE THING FOR CHURCH FAIRS. Rich Hill, Missouri, Nov. 29th, 1892.

MORSE & Co.,
Gentlemen:—Some time ago I sent an order to you
for the Comfort and two Dolls, which I received.
Finding them just as advertised I now enclose you an
order for \$5.00, for which send me Dolls to that amount.
The laddes of the M. E. Church wish to raise money
that we have pledged for the new church (now being
erected) and think we can make something on the
Dolls. Send promptly if you please, as we wish to
begin work at once, having an entertainment coming
on very soon.

Very truly,
MRS. J. E. SIMCOSKY.



BEAUTIFUL PROFITABLE

AND WORK.

KENSINGTON STAMPING was never more popular than te-day. Many ladies making high wages working at home, odd hours. Besides beautifying your own home you can make 16c, every 5 minutes you stamp for others. If you only devote 3 hours a day to it, the snug little sum of \$5 and over comes in, as the prices range from 5c. to \$1 for each pattern you stamp. An inventive genius has lately modernized machinery for turning out these patterns by the hundred yards as fast as you can reel off a ball of yarn, so their cost is barely nothing to what it was lastly year. We send the patterns on strips about two feet long and seven inches wide. Nearly as good as many 50c. and \$1 ones now being sold. We buy so many of this one kind that we can tead every other dealer on price. Our beautiful combined outfit consisting of nearly 100 of the largest variety of patterns, each from about a foot long down to single alphabet letters. We cannot describe them, not having room to go into detail, but in order to introduce our magazine, "Comfort," with its greatly improved departments, we will send the above outfit, Free, postpost, to all three months' [3c.) subscribers, and also send a printed. It describes how to make all colors of powder, and instruction in the art of stampling. a new book or Manual of Instruction in the art of stamping Just printed. It describes how to make all colors of powder and instructs you in every manner of working the patterns If you enclose 12c. at once, we make you a record of the state and instructs you in every manner of working the patterns If you enclose 12c. at once, we make you a present of above MORSE & CO., Box 70 Augusta, Maine.



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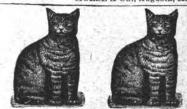
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The Columbian Globe is a great geographical toy for young or old, being made of heavy goods and got, to up in bright Lithographic colors; it is a grand object lesson Toy or useful ornament, showing the grand divisions of both hemispheres, the route over which Columbus sailed in the sailed. Every one understands how necessary a globe is in the study of geography. The child who has one will make double the progress that the child will make who has none, and for all practical purposes ours is just as good as one costing five or ten dollars. Ours cannot be broken, no fear of the children breaking it. Agents will make money selling then, because every school boy or girl will have one, and one or more can be sold to every family. We will send one Globe free post paid to each person sending 15c, for a 3 months' subscription to Comfort. They even amuse small children to use as a Football. Five Globes and subs. 50c., 12 for \$1.00. Address

MORSE & Co., Augusta, Maine.

THE HAMMOCK CHAIR.





ABOUT THE DEAR TABBY CAT & KITTENS.

As "Blue blood tells" in the human family, so it is the eautiful shade of huce marraw run takes the lead in the these most useful and affectionate pets. When, in the stimes, they were emulained at death, it was little thought

indeed the content of INDESTRUCTIBLE. Having overcome the great obtacle of weight, they can be sent by mail to any part of the country, and for solling at CHURCH FALL SALES, Erc., Erc., they are a decided nevely, and so wene offered by agonts at the bousse. If each nearly \$55,000 FIRST CAT ready for rale. MANY SHILLIONS will be a FIRST HURDERD THOUSAND are ble GUEN AWAY to

FIRST HUNDRED THOUSAND HE WE CALL AT AN AN ANALYSIS OF CONTROL OF CHILD AND AN ANALYSIS OF CONTROL erdering by the unexus, June sellers than 4 kittens to one porson.
Address COMFORT PUBLISHING CO., BOX 1234 AUGUSTA, MAINE.

REMNANTS FOR CRAZY PATCHWORK ART in needle-work is on the ad-vance. We know



handsome, oddshaped, and pretty colored goods accumulate very first at all NECKTIB

FANTORIES: for years have been burdened and overrun with remnants of many RICH GOODS. We have been down to get a like midguilts, etc., and we can help you out how. We are going to give you as big trade on. People at a distance have hard times getting the right assortment to put into soft-pillows, dispose of this immense lot RIGHT OFF. Our packages contain from 99 to 183 pieces of the best quality assorted goods, and we want to get a lot introduced into every home; shen you can order as you like for your friends, and MAKE MONEY doling our work and helping yourself also. Remember these pieces are carefully trimmed, and especially adapted to all sorts of fancy, art, and needle work. Many ladies sell tidies, fancy pillows, etc., at a great price made from these remnants. Order one sample lot now for only 26c. It would cost many carefully the state of the property of the state of the property of the sort of the property of the property of the sort of the sort of the sort of the property of the sort of the sort of the property of the sort of the sort of the property of the property of the sort of the sort of the property of the sort of the sort of the property of the sort of the sort of the sort of the property of the sort of the sort of the sort of the property of the sort of the subscription to "COMFORT" the best Home Monthly now published, or if you send for more than one lot as above, "COMFORT" goes for one year.

COMFORT FUB. CO., Box 120, Augusta, Maine.

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BETTER YET. To all answering this ad. before 30 days we will also send 0 pieces of elegant PLUSH FREE. They come is Red, Blue, Green, Old Gold, etc.



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16

ND now comes an alleged Ohio professor with the startling announcement that kissing is unhealthy! He insists that it is the means of trans m it ting disease germs from lip to lip, and that the kiss must go.

The world might as well be brought to an end at once; and isn't it about time for these so-called scientists to be sat upon and squelched? Not content with frightening folks into the belief that the food we eat is freighted with nine-jointed mit h nine-jointed mit h nine-jointed mit he with fatal miasmas, these microscopic mischief-makers have actually begun monkeying with the kiss. mischief-makers have actually begun monkey



ANALYZING A KISS.

ANALYZING A KISS.

For centuries upon centuries this tenderest token of love has been gladly accepted the world over at its face value, and now, when at this late day a man comes forward and questions its entire healthiness, he ought to be given a place in the Agricultural Department in Washington, with instructions to write a treatise on the relative kicking powers of a Kentucky mule and a Dakota grasshopper.

There are, of course, kisses and kisses, but to borrow the language of a poet who has gone before: Just imagine a divine girl with real warm blood glowing in every vein, the flush of health on her glor ious upturned face, her rosy lips protruding in the slightest poss is ble poutlet and her whole attitude meaning expectancy and watting, and then fancy how that ripe, tender mouth would re-echo the spontaneous outpouring of pent-up emotions! Fancy how such a kiss would fairly melt the gold-filling in your tooth, and then tell the little lady, if you can, that you must decline with thanks, because you are afraid of germs!

Microbe s be hanged!

No such thing as a microbe sould survive the kissof love's you ung dream any more than not a great any more than not any more than not a great any more than not any more than



y o u n g
dream any
more than
it can outlive the
chill of the eye philos-opher really discovered anything about kiss-

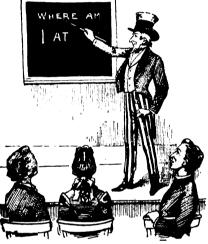
TOR CHEALTRY KISS. ing, it must be that he tried to make love to the cook, and got what he deserved. The kiss came to stay.

Miss Gussie Granger of Mercury Meadows, Georgia, writes:

Miss Gussic Granger of Mercury Mendows, Georgia, writes:

"I am a highly ambitious girl whose family have seen better days before the war, and as there are no opportunities for typewriters of my sex in this lonely solitude, I have long cherished the hope that I might secure a government position in Washington, and thus occupy that station in life to which my birth and breeding entitle me. Cruel fate seemed to have ordained otherwise, but now that Mr. Hoke Smith of this State has been called into the cabinet, my star of hope leads me to ask your valuable advice. Would you go right on to Washington, or would you write a letter first? Our store-keeper, who is also postmaster, thinks I will have to sit for a civil service examination, but papa says that is all nonsense as I am not a mugwump. I shall be awfully disappointed if I must, for I have already had a costly new traveling sutt made. And will you tell me what sort of questions they ask? I have written quite a lot of poetry and am called bright and vivacious, and would strive to please. If I cannot get a position in Mr. Smith's cabinet office, perhaps he will get me a place in the White House. How do you like my style?"

ANSWER.—Your style is absolutely great and reflects credit on the Honorable Hoke Smith's constituency. But we are sorry to disappoint you. The store-keeper is correct, and for the present, at least, you had perhaps best remain where you are, as there is no immediate demand for poetry in the White House, and the '33 crop of typewriters of your sex was exceedingly large in Washington. Were you to go there now you might have occasion to return to your rural solitude with a change of mind if not a change of clothes. But whatever you do, Gussie, don't fail to write first. That will give Mrs. Cleveland an opportunity to have the spare room put in order and fresh pillow shams placed on the bed. In the meantime, we print for your benefit a few such questions as are usually asked at civil service examinations.



A DOSE OF CIVIL SERVICE.

1. Name all the principal streets of Yazoo City and give an illustration of offensive partisanship.

2. Who struck Billy Patterson? In answering this question please furnish a map showing the position of the Union forces at the battle of dettysburg, and give some peculiar characteristics of the Latter Day Saints.

3. In the sentence: "Strike him for pie, Mary Ann," name the kind of pie that is referred to, and also give, as near as you can, the advalorem duty on mules under the McKinley law.

4. How do you account for the difference between a horse chestnut and a chestnut horse, and what is your opinion of the police force of New York City?

5. State how, when, where, why and by whom the poem was written in which these lines occur:

"This road is not passable,

"This road is not passable, Not even jackassable." And name the author of "Where am I at?"



Three roads lay just before her, Each one to marriage ran. So she tapped her lips, With her finger tips, And firted behind her fan.

Three men stood just before

her, Wondering if she were false; For to all three This coquette, she Had promised to give that waltz.

One was a graceful dancer, With plenty of family pride; And the girl could see, What her life might be,

The next, a rich admirer, Had been her girlhood's beau; But he lost his place, In the triple race— And her questioned heart said: "No."

cle kiss; and if this Bucklimit she gave up the chance, with the others to dance.

Just to walk through life with him.

WANTED-A live agent in every town to sell
"The Wonderful Christy Knives."
These knives are money coiners. Write quick to CHRISTY KNIFE CO., Fremont, O.

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2. 75 byya a \$9 White Reed Baby Carriage, freight

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PARK'S SEEDS

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nearly 20 years, and have always been very much
pleased with them. B. A. BRACKET, Newport, Mc.

THIS is one of a host of flower-lovers who will buy only of PARK, for they can always depend upon what he says, and what he sells. His FLORAL GUIDE is truthful, honest and full of good things. You'll miss a joy if you fall to get it. 83 Sent for

If you fall to get it. 83"Sent for

ONLY TEN CENTS,
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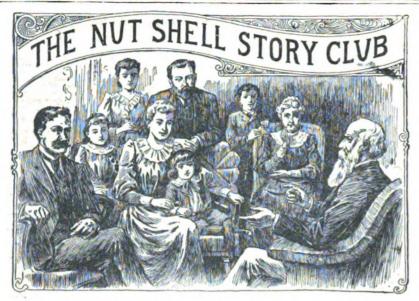


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The following conditions will hereafter govern the awarding of eash prizes for Nutshell Stories, and the awarding of eash prizes for Nutshell Stories, and the manuscripts of such writers only as have compiled with all these reguirements will receive consideration.

All the necessary particulars being here clearly set forth, it will be useless for any one to seek further information or personal favors by addressing the editor, 43 such letters cannot be answered.

1. Only persons who are regular yearly subscribers to "Comfort" and who send with every manuscript at least two new yearly subscribers (together with 25 cents for each subscriber so sent) may compete for the prizes.

2. All contributions must have the number of world they conclude they will be addressed to Editor Nutshell Story Club care of Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

3. All stories must be strictly original with the contributors who may write upon any subject, whether based upon fort, fancy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace; of city or country life, or of experiences on land or sea—but no story must contain more than 1,500 or less than 1,000 words.

4. No Manuscript will be returned under any

no story must contain more man how to test more than the test words.

4. No manuscript will be returned under any circumstances and competitions should therefore retain a copy of what they send.

5. The writer of the best original story will receive \$30 cash; of the second best, \$25 cash; of the third best, \$20 cash and of the fourth best, \$15 cash. Remittances will be made by check as soon as awards have been made. The publishers of "Comfort" reserve the right to purchase at their established rates any stories submitted under the foregoing offer, which failed to secure a prize.

PRIZE WINNERS FOR MAY.

Alwin B. Jovenil, First Prize. Samuel Freedman, Second Prize. J. W. Bothem. Third Prize.

Ad. H. Gibson, Fourth Prize.

PLANTING A BABY.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY ALWIN B. JOVENIL.

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of young children." My papa planted 'tatoes in the ground and they growed a lot of baby 'tatoes-O my!" and she clasped her chubby hands to

delight wonder. down face of her little brother, who lay kicking and crowing in the cradle she was rocking. "O my! I wonder if I

couldn't grow a lot of 'Tootses' the same as my pa growed 'tatoes!" "Toots" was the name Ruth had "Toots" was the name Ruth had given her little brother, whose real cognomen was John-John Thomas Jones

"I fink you're the dearest sweetest little fing, and I know my mamma and papa can't have any too many of you, 'cause they loves you so," continued Ruth "Now I'll dess take you to the garden and plant you and grow a lot of little 'Tootses,' and won't my mamma and papa be s'prised and pleased when they

At this juncture a very troublesome problem presented itself to Ruth and once more the knotted lines came upon the white forehead. At last she said as though pondering very carefully every word: "I wonder if 'Toots' is a seed or a slip? 'Cause if he's a seed I must plant him all over, and if he's a sup I must leave his head sticking out." Ruth had seen her mother planting slips of flowers and remembered how her father had covered the pop-corn. The thought-lines deepened and the sweet little face began to look very profound. Suddenly her countenance lighted up and she exclaimed with a merry little laugh: "O, what a silly dirl I be! 'Course 'Toots' is a slip; 'cause didn't I hear my papa call him 'a little slip of a fing.' Now I'll dit a hoe and dig a hole and put 'Toots' in and cover him all up 'cept his head and arms. Dess be the doodedest lit-tle 'Toots' that ever was. Sister won't be gone long,' and Ruth, placing a soft palm on each fat cheek stooped and, for a brief moment, smothered the happy cooings of the child with her kisses; and ther ran quickly out of the house to the garden to make

ready the ground for baby planting.

Just the time for planting babies, Ruth thought. She soon found a small patch of ground. which her father had turned up with the spade only that morning, and at once began digging with the hoe, she had brought with her, in the loose soil. In a short time she had a hole deep enough and big enough in which to plant her slip of a baby.

'There, I fink that's dess 'bout right," she said. thoughtfully surveying her work and carefully wiping her soil-stained hands upon her white apron. "Now I'll dit 'Toots'," and she hurried into the house.

"Now I'il dit 'Toots'," and she hurried into the house.

"Toots" was still kicking and crowing He heid his tin rattle-box in one chubby fist, and as Ruth came in he shook it at her vigorously and crowed louder than ever. He had just discovered that he could make it rattle and was very proud of the fact and wanted his big sister to see what a bright little lad he was.

"O, you cunning little fing!" she exclaimed the moment she became aware of his new accomplishment. "Sister's going to plant you and grow a lot of you. There isn't near 'nut now to go 'round," and she caught him up in her arms and hastened with him out of the house, being very careful not to make any noise for fear that Mary, the hired girl, who was slinging at her work in the kitchen, might stop her. She had an idea that Mary did not like "tending babies" and would be displeased if she knew that she was about to raise another crop.

Ruth placed the baby in the cool moist hole which she had dug, and with many a gentle love- pat packed the dirt tightly around his body, leaving only his head and arms sticking out.

"S'posel ought to water him," she said thoughtfully, as she surveyed the protruding arms and head. "Cause my mamma always waters slips when she plants them. I'll dit the water-pot," and she hastened away after the article.

"Toots" couldn't just understand what was being done to him, but he thought it must be something very nice, for his sister looked so happy. He opened his big blue eyes as wide as he could and stared around. A few feet to the front a robin had alighted and was now hopping up cautiously toward him, doubtlessly wondering greatly what kind of a garden vegetable this strange-looking thing was.

"Toots" cro we do with delight."

The robin stopped short and turning his head from side to side looked inquiringly at him.



for a moment, then took a couple of quick hops nearer and stopped again.

"Toots" extended both hands toward the bird and squealed and crowed with all his might.

The robin was non-plused. He could not remember of ever having seen or heard of a plant behaving after this manner before. He cocked his little head first to one side then to the other, chirruped, took another hop nearer the baby and then, his timid heart taking fright, flew to a neighboring apple tree.

"Toots" did not like this. He wanted to get hold of the pretty little thing; and he now began to feel very uncomfortable too. He dug his fat dirty flists into his eyes and rubbed dirt all over his face, and had just opened his mouth to give utterance to a vigorous protest to this sort of thing, when Ruth came up with the big water-pot.

"My, how funny "Toots' looks!" she exclaimed the moment she caught sight of his dirt-plastered face. "Spose it's 'cause he's 'ginning to grow. I dess I'd better sprinkle him now," and she tipped up the water-pot.

Hundreds of sparkling drops fell upon "Toots" unprotected head. Never in all of his short life had anything like this happened to him before, and he was badly frightened and screamed so loudly that the little robin in the apple tree near by flew away in a great fright.

"Ruth! Ruth! !—Heavens and earth, child! what are you desired!" and serven and few was and serve and se

"Ruth! Ruth! !- Heavens and earth, child! what

"Ruth! Ruth!!—Heavens and earth, child! what are you doing?" and Ruth's father sprang forward, and quickly pulling the baby out of the muddy ground, turned sternly upon his daughter.

Ruth, at this unexpected termination of her baby planting, burst into tears and explained, between her sobs: "O papa, I fought there wasn't 'nuf 'Toots' to go 'round, so I planted him to grow some more, 'cause I loves him so."

"OLD MARY."

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT BY SAMUEL FREEDMAN.

Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern. WAS the only name she was



other names nor She was a fixture in the village of Marysville-its first settler. Had she been a man, she would now have been its chief magistrate, out being only a woman, she could only serve as a sort of land mark.

She had a "past" and all could tell of it. Away back in the forties be-It was a warm sunny afternoon in the early part of fore the date of the first land grant in Marysyllie

register's office, when she was a pretty young Scotch girl, she came there with her newly made husband. He drove the first pick into the unyielding soil in quest of ore and called the wild place Marysville after her. They were very happy, so the story went. Though all her great, strong lover brought was labor

and honesty, love robbed realism of its severity.

There came a syndicate to Marysville one day equipped with eastern capital and machinery, and "Old Mary's" husband was made foreman of the works. Aided by his superior force, for he was working for his bonnie lassie, they sunk the shafts to enormous depths, and soon a small mountain had been torn from the bottom of the earth and a gaping hole took its place. "We will soon reach the vein" was the cry each day. One morning, there resounded over the place the sound as of a bursting avalanche and when the noise and dust had cleared away every one knew that the mine had fallen in and buried its foreman, the young husband. Then the company was discouraged and gave up its plant. Marysville resumed its old proportions and of all its inflow and old inhabitants, "Old Mary" was almost the only one that remained.

And she did remain, a patient watcher by the dead, who without a casket, lay buried beneath, a greater depth of turf than had ever embedded mortal before And as the years came and went, children and chil dren's children grew to look upon her as much a part of the village as the spire over the little church or the gnarled tree before the school-house. In front of the little cabin beside the ruins of the pit which told of the tragedy it held, she was daily seen measuring the seams of her apron back and forth, speaking to herself some old Scotch phrase, now peering into the abyss below and now with the tears coursing down the furrows of her soft-skinned wrinkled face.

Around her would cluster the gorgeous, carnival colored wild flowers, nodding their yellow, pink or purple heads in sympathy, and in the morning, when the dews would still lie on their petals like great celestial teardrops, she would caress them with her hand and say, "Aye, e'en ye weep by his grave," for being but a woman, she could only dream of a past in which she lived; and being weak and good, could only pray for a time hoped to come. "Her head is full of fancy and her heart is dead and empty," they would say of her.

But when quiet, patient and uncomplaining, she went through her daily life like a soul embedded in a tomb, when she gave her small mite into the con-tribution box, nursed the sick or helped mothers with young children, or when she was seen in the little church of St. Mary's peering through the brilliant. sunlight colored window, the people said of her 'She has the Virgin's name, she has the Virgin's

She prayed for a miracle and it came!

Prospectors came to Marysville and again said that the land teemed with ore. They took up the work where the weak kneed syndicate had dropped it years before, and after many weeks the mountain of earth that had fallen upon the works was raised. They came to the exact spot where the work before them had been stopped when suddenly an excitement was noticed around the Marysville mine. Whitefaced men came up from it with eyes wild and staring and comrades, to whom they whispered strange things, looked at them in disbelief and amazement and made their way below. Soon the thing was whispered all over Marysville and it came to the ears of "Old Mary."

Not a quiver showed on her face when she heard of it. She took the arm of one man and stepping into the wicker carriage was lowered below. She had known it would come through all these years. She had waited and watched when the new miners began work, for she expected them to bring to her arms out of that black vaulted grave the remains of her husband, if only that she might press upon his skeleton lips the holy kiss of love and lower him into a consecrated grave. She knew this was all to come to her sooner or later, so her steps did not tremble when she stepped from the carriage many feet below the surface. She needed no support but limped through the well-lighted subterranean chambers to the place they pointed out.

But when she saw what lay there, she gave a shrick that each remembered to his dying day. For under an overhanging chasm of stone, formed like a cave, with one arm under his head as though in peaceful sleep, lay, not the form of a mouldering skeleton, but her boy-husband, perfect as upon the morning when he had parted from her all those years before. flush was still upon his cheek, and in his hand was the miniature of a girlish face-her own when she was young-clasped to his heart. So he had laid himself down there all those years before to a sleep that in fifty years knew no awakening, so he had died and through it all, the gases, or the waters of minerals, the cold of the subterranean vault, the atmosphere or other conditions-things that are known to God and science only had preserved him for her. perfect, calm and beautiful.

The miracle was accomplished!

He was given back as he had been taken from her; but alas, she had come to meet him with the snows of years upon her brow, with limbs palsied and wrinkled face and fading e with years that had intervened she had never thought of the change. The love that filled her heart when it was young, had grown with her years and now became the love of age for age; but this boy, once husband, this young lover lay before her like a mockery. She knew that if animation was given him, he would now turn away from her tottering remnant of life, in horror. Trembling and feeble now, she sank down by his

side, crouched and kissed the boyish lips. Those that were near heard her give a sob like the cry of a breaking heart that age has shrivelled, while her old head fell forward on the young breast. They took her tenderly away and that day buried the boy near the village church.

But "Old Mary" still clung to her home by the chasm's side and watched the yawning gap just as she did of yore. She would often place her hand to her head in a wondering sort of way and peer below with an expectant gaze, as if awaiting the arising of some indefinite thing. Some said it was a kindred soul she awaited to come to her from those black depths. Others, in consolation, would often tell her that somewhere lifetimes are but seconds, and all things mortal are seen as only dust and fancy, and that they will meet again where no age or time that they wi divides them.

[NUTSHELL STORIES CONTINUED ON PAGE 31

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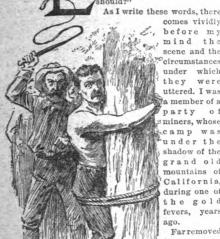
[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2.]

A TALE OF THE MINES.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY J. W. BOTHEM.

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ARKINS will you write to the old folks in Ireland, and tell them I died bravely as an innocent man should?"



before my mind the scene and the circumstances under which they were uttered. I was a member of a party miners, whose camp was shadow of the mountains of California during one of

> ago. Farremoved justice,

were compelled to punish offenders in any way that an In the improvised jury and judge might direct. afternoon of the day of which I write, there had come into our camp an old man, who inquired for eader of our party. He was directed to the cabin of Col. Randall, who had, by general consent, been selected to take charge of affairs. He had participated, as principal, in a number of duels and was just the kind of a man to command respect in a party composed, as ours was, of all sorts.

On coming into his presence the old man told his story. He said:

ast night, about nine o'clock a young man, stranger to me, came to my cabin, about eight miles down the trail, and asked for a night's lodging. I cheerfully complied with his request and after a friendly chat and smoke, I showed him to one of the two rooms of my cabin. I bade him good-night and turning in myself I was soon asleep and slept soundly till after daybreak. I prepared breakfast, went to call my lodger, and to my surprise found the room empty. My suspicions were aroused, and I went to the old chest where I had kept all the money I had in the world, about one hundred and eighty

"It was gone.

"Having searched in other places for the man, unsuccessfully, I thought I would come to ask if you stranger around these parts."

Col. Randall listened attentively to the story, and then without a word took down the old horn that was used to call in the men on special occasions, and proceeding to the center of the camp blew along, loud In a moment the miners could be seen making their way into the camp. When they were all assembled the Colonel ordered them all to stand in He then directed the old man to look carefully at the men and see, if ih any of them, he recognized his guest of the former night. Without any hesitation he touched a young athletic Irishman named Dugan and said, "That's the man."

Dugan, who was a general favorite among the boys. stoutly protested his innocence, but a jury was at once selected and with Col. Randall acting as judge, the trial began.

It was of necessity a short one. The old man told his story as he had repeated it to the Colonel. Dugan swore that he had not left his cabin during the previous night, and the case was given to the jury, who retired to a point about one hundred yards tant and returned, after an absence of about fifteen minutes, with a verdict of "guilty."

The judge requested them to also name the punishment, which after a short deliberation they announced as "Twenty lashes on the bare back every half hour until he confesses."

Hardy men as we were, and used to the rough usages of uncivilized frontier life, we could not repress a shudder of horror at the sentence, for we knew Dugan to be a man not easily cowed; and, even if guilty, it would take a great amount of punishment to force his confession.

I see his calm determined face now, as he asked the privilege of saying a few words before the punishment commenced. This of course was granted him, and mounting an old stump he said:

"Boys, I expect to die under the lash, for, being innocent of the crime charged I cannot confess. But I will die as I have lived, without fear," Then turning to his warmest friend, Larkins, addressed to him the

words with which my story opens.

Never, I think, have words spoken in a Court of Justice in civilized life made a deeper impression upon those who heard them, than did that speech by this young Irishman, on the hearts of those rough miners. The san was sinking behind the grim old mountains whose shadows fell across the camp. The chill November wind sighed through the branches overhead, and into our hearts stole a gloom that brought us into near sympathy with the one on whom this dread sentence had passed, and who by his speech and manner, had half convinced us of his innocence. But this was no time for sentiment, and at the order of the judge we proceeded to select, by lot, three men who were to administer the punish-

Dugan was stripped to the waist, bound to a tree. nd the scourging began. Not a sound issued from his lips as lash after lash cut through the flesh. -Forty-Sixty lashes and still no confession. The judge ordered the punishment stopped until the morning, and the poor man, now fearfully lacerated, was taken to the hut that was used as a prison, and a guard was put over him for the night.

My cabin was next to one occupied by the judge, and the next morning about daybreak, when I saw

him start tor the scene of action, I joined him. He ring which had suddenly attracted the tramp's atsaid to me:

"I am convinced that Dugan is innocent and he must not be punished any further."

We arrived at the prison and saw a crowd surrounding the prisoner, determined to carry out the sentence to the bitter end, when Dugan, throwing up his arms, cried out:

"Hold on boys, I can stand this no longer. If you will go to the back of my cabin, and dig under a large flat stone you will find there, you will soon discover the gold,"

We were quick to act on this suggestion, and hastening to the spot, we were not long in finding a bag containing one hundred and eighty dollars, in good American coin.

We handed it to the old man, who, taking from it a twenty dollar gold piece, threw it to Dugan and departed in the direction of his home; while the miners, with the exception of the now humiliated Dugan, went to work hoping that not soon again would the sound of the old horn summon us to such a scene.

TRAINING A WIFE.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY AD. H. GIBSON.

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OUNG Dr. Harrison had been married



Chicago. They were very happy together, despite the fact that the doctor had one domestic trouble; his wife would feed every tramp who stopped at their back door, no matter how unprepossessing the wanderer might be.

Feeling it his duty, the doctor had more than once remon-strated with her against the wrong of encouraging that

worthless class of beings.

His remonstrances, however, availed nothing. Mil lie Harrison was too tender-hearted to refuse something to eat to the dirtiest tramp on the road. She would have divided her last loaf with a hungry per-

"How do I know whether he is good or had?" she would say to the doctor, "God is the judge, not I By driving one from our door without food. I might commit a great sin in His sight. Remember, Dick. He says, 'I was hungry and ye fed me not; naked, and ye clothed me not.'"

But Richard Harrison was in no humor to lister that morning to Biblical quotations. He was disleased with her, because, just the day before, thinking her husband would never wear that old brown coat again, she had given it to a shivering tramp at ner door. It happened, however, that the old coat held in one of its pockets, some papers and prescripions particularly valuable to the doctor. Millie never dreamed of this, and now Richard was angry and would not forgive her.

He went off to his office up town without kissing her, and she, tender little woman, had a good cry before she began washing her breakfast dishes.

When Dr. Harrison reached his office, he sat down and began to think.

"Uncle Josh says its the duty of every man to trair his wife to suit him," he mused. "Now I've never believed in wife-training, because I think when a woman marries she ought to have common sense enough to attend to things about the house without any interference from the husband. Millie is good and I love her, but she is young and has some foolish ideas. That one about entertaining tramps is the most annoying to me. It must be stopped, too, or there is no telling to what it may lead. I suppose as Uncle Josh has told me, it's my duty to train Millie Well, I'll begin by sickening her of the gay and festive tramp. I have it! I hate to scare Millie, but it's for her good."

Dashing off a note to his partner, saying he would be gone an hour or two, he grabbed his hat and left the office hurriedly. Hastening to an obscure costumer's shop, where detectives and other persons often find it convenient to make a complete change in their attire, Richard Harrison procured for himself the disguise of a seedy tramp.

Millie, her pretty eyes red from weeping, was wip

ing the cups and saucers, when the door opened, and one of the most repellant looking tramps she had ever seen, stood before her.
"Woman," he said in a gruff voice, "I've heard you

was famous for helpin' unfortunate critters like me. I'm wantin' somethin' to nibble at."

"Take that chair," she returned, setting bread and cold meat on the table before him. "I will give you little breekfoot !!

"See here, woman, bread an' ole tough beef are gettin' mighty tiresome eatin'. I'll bet yer got somethin' better in that closet-preserves, pies an' things. Gee! Wot's that shinin' thing?"



It was Millie Harrison's beautiful gold wedding

tention. She had removed it from her finger, while washing the dishes, and had placed it on the table.

With sudden apprehension she stepped forward to secure her ring, but the tramp pushed her rudely back and put it into his pocket.

"Married women has no need o'rings," he said, contemptuously. "I kin use sich things best in my business. Now trot inter that closet an' bring me out some o' yer dainties. Be quiek about it, too, an' don't yer darst to screech, or I'll choke yer black an blue!"

The tramp's threat made her tremble visibly from fear, but she did not lose her entire self-possession. Her wits were keenly at work to regain her ring, the keepsake which her heart prized above all others.

At mention of the closet an idea darted into her mind. Stepping to the door she flung it open, say-

"You may go in and help yourself to the best I have.

With a triumphant chuckle the tramp obeyed. But no sooner was he well within the closet, than slam! went the door, and swift fingers slipped the iron fastening into its proper position. The tramp was trapped!

There was a great crash, as man, flour barrel, baskets, and fruit jars toppled over in a confused mass upon the floor of the darkened closet,

But Millie Harrison did not wait to hear the tramp's entreaties for release. She ran immediately to the little parlor, which communicated with her husband's office by a telephone wire.

Dr. Abbington, her husband's associate physician, answered her call.

"Send policeman at once. Man in closet," she called back.

In a very short time, Abbington and a large policeman arrived. Mrs. Harrison gave the particulars in a few words, as she led the way to the closet where sounds of kicking, pounding, accompanied by vigor-

ous demands to be released, could be heard. "Let me out! Don't you know me?" he yelled.

"Don't excite yourself," said the policeman at the door. "I think I know you. I have a place for such fellows as you."

Then the door was thrown open by the policeman. and the captive, covered with flour, jellies, mortification, tumbled headlong into the kitchen. Millie screamed and hid her face.

"It's Richard!" she uttered in a little shriek. "Oh!" "What does this mean?" demanded the officer, frowning.

"It means I've been acting the fool," returned Dr. Harrison, rising in his ignoble condition and facing the astonished trio before him. "I thought my wife needed a little training. She is in the habit of givng a bite, now and then, to tramps who stop at our back door. So I decided to play tramp, and scare her so thoroughly that she would abandon her philanthrophy in that direction. But she's a braver little woman, God bless her! than I gave her credit for being. Here's your ring, dear. If you'll forgive me I'll never try training you again."



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The publishers take pleasure in announcing that in order to increase the common interest in this department, and to develop the inventive power and originality of COMPORT readers, they offer the fol-

originality of COMPORT readers, they offer the fol-lawing Cash prizes:

Ist. A Cash prize of TWENTY DOLLARS (\$20) will be given for the best original and practical suggestion for use in this department.

Ind. A Cash prize of FIFTEEN DOLLARS (\$15) will be given for the Second best suggestion in the same line.

Ird. A Cash prize of ten dollars (\$10) for the next

h. A Cash prize of seven dollars and fifty cents

\$67.50 for the next.

\$5th. A Cash prize of five dollars (\$5) for the next.

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\$7th. Ten Cash prizes of two dollars (\$2) each for the next ten and

\$7th. Ten Cash prizes of one dollar (\$1) each for the next ten and

\$7th. Ten Cash prizes of one dollar (\$1) each for the next twenty, making 36 prizes in all to be given brauch suggestion as rank in the above order of merit.

CONDITIONS.

CONDITIONS.

Competitors must be yearly paid-up subscribers to COMPORT; and in addition must send at-least one new yearly subscriber, with twenty-five cents, the grice of one year's subscription to Comport for each new subscriber so sent.

Letters must be received before September first; and awards will be published in the October issue.

Letters must be written plainly on one side of the paper only.

Letters must be short, plain, explicit and contain no superfluous words.

Bo manuscript will be returned.

Descriptions may cover fancy articles, gifts for ald and young, designs in drawn-work, embroidery, atc. Only such patterns of knitting and crocheting will be considered as are of exceptional merit and surginality. Designs for internal and external deconations of the house may be entered in the contest, or suggestions on any topic contributing to home comfact or individual happiness. Illustrations of articles suggested, when possible, will add to the value of letters. Designs or suggestions must be absolutely sursignal with the writer, never having appeared in grint before, and not copied from books or other surces.

No communication will be considered that is not

Surces.

No communication will be considered that is not sufficiently stamped, and accompanied by the writer's bill name and address.

The conditions are fully given here and consequently no letters of inquiry or of a personal nature will be answered.

Articles will be judged on merit alone.

Gempetition positively closes September first.

The publishers reserve the right to use any suggestions submitted which may not be awarded a prize.

All communications must be fully prepaid and addressed to Busy Bee. Care of Comport, Augusta, Maine.



EXT month I hope to place be fore you some of the designs and suggestions which are coming in response to our prize offer at the head of this column. But in the meantime, I must tell you of some new things lately seen in Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago and New York.

Justa word about the prize-offer first, however. Read the serve carefully,

conditions very carefully, however. Read the conditions very carefully, please.

You understand that in order to compete for the please.

You understand that in order to compete for the sate least one new subscriber, with the full year's subscription (twenty-five cents) for each new name; and that you have from now to September to work in.

Don't write us long letters; and as we have a saily business mail of from 5,000 to 6,500 letters, it will be utterly impossible for us to answer or to return Mss.

If you make your designs and suggestions abort, (and nothing else is wanted) it will be very easy for you to retain a copy of what you submit to this competition. Wherever you can, too, send us a drawing illustrating your idea.

Of course we don't expect you to make pictures ready for our use. Unless you are a professional artist, it will be impossible for you to do that. But we have a corps of special artists, whom you can aid very materially by some sort of a rough drawing.

Again, be original. Don't copy, and don't send us anything that has ever been in print. Comport has over 6,000,000 readers every month, and if we publish anything that is not absolutely fresh and new, somebody is going to let us know it.

There will be, doubtless, in spite of the fact that the above offer includes thirty-six prizes, many more novel and useful suggestions than that. Those which seem to us the best will be awarded special prizes. But you will note that the publishers reserve the right to use such of the other than the publishers reserve the right to use such of the other than the publishers reserve the right to use such of the other than the summer of the course of the

many more novel and useful suggestions than that. Those which seem to us the best will be awarded special prizes. But you will note that the publishers reserve the right to use such of the others as they may see fit. This contest is going to bring out such good talent and novel ideas, however, that it will be an honor to appear in these columns—even if you should not be awarded a prize.

Now study the conditions very carefully, and then I expect to receive something fresh and new from all of you.

About the new ideas from the great cities? Well, there, as everywhere else, with May comes the idea of renovating the house and getting ready for summer. House-cleaning is a necessary evil that comes to rich and poor alike. It used to be the fashion among the wealthy elasses to use heavy draperies in the winter, and when spring came, to put them away and substitute mattings or rugs, and light cool furniture. But so much more comfortable did the latter fashion seem, that there has been a revolution in the ideas of modern house-hold-crs.



Some years ago, the fashion came over from Europe of using a profusion of rugs. Americans, you know, always do things by wholesale; so instead of abandoning carpets, as foreigners do, they caught up the craze for rugs, but laid them down over thick heavy carpets. The consequence was, that our parlors and drawing-rooms—yes, and bed-rooms—which of all places ought to be fresh and sweet—became stuffy and unhealthful. Carpets take up and hide away great quantities of dust, and disease germs. But we had paid for expensive carpets and could not get used to the idea of going without them.

Now, nowever, a sensible revolution has set in. We used to look upon straw matting as ugly, cheap stuff, fit only for servants' rooms and closets. But with the advent of Japanese mattings in this country, our ideas have undergone a change.

Mattings, for several years, have been growing more artistic. Now the Japanese mattings are nothing short of beautiful. It is the fashion to-day, both in city and country houses, to put these fine, handsome coverings on every floor in the house. The beautiful and costly foreign rugs show to much better advantage on them; they do not gather dust, they are more economical, and they are much nore artistic than carpets. The wealthy classes are adopting them. In fact, I know of houses furnished from top to bottom with Japanese matting, at less than a dollar a yard; but which have over three thousand dollars worth of rugs also!

A young man whom I know, is furnishing one of the finest apartments in Boston with Japanese mattings and rugs.

When he first began to think of furnishing bachelor quarters, he casually asked a young

mattings and rugs.

When he first began to think of furnishing

when he has began to think of furnishing bachelor quarters, he casually asked a young lady to whom he had been introduced:
"Would you use tidies in your house?"
"No, I abominate tidies," said the girl.
She voiced the sentiment of every man in Christendom, and this one in particular was at once interested in her.
Some time after, he was thrown with her again.

some time activities a house with shining again.
"Would you furnish a house with shining upholstered satin furniture?" he asked.
"No, indeed, I wouldn't," replied this sensible maiden. "I want maiden. "I want only quiet, rest-

ful fabrics about me."

She didn't know it, but he liked her from that moment. When he met her again, he put another test question:
"I say, would you use matting or carpets on your floors?"
"Matting, by all means," was the all unconscious answer.



that moment. When he he had a same to another test question:

"I say, would you use matting or carpets on your floors?"

"Matting, by all means," was the all unconscious answer.

The ne fell hopelessly, violently in love. The sequel is obvious. Girls, take heed.

Now, this young woman, busy with her own pursuits and not thinking of "marriage or giving in marriage." gave the young man, without knowing it, such a glimpse of a quiet, restful home, where "fussiness" and millinery, inartistic ribbon bows and tidies should be unknown, and solid comfort reign, that her "market was made" before she knew it.

After this story, every young woman who reads Comport will want to know more about mattings.

The finest ones are made in Japan. These are quite different from the ordinary Cocoa mattings. They are machine made, with a strong linen warp, and a filling made of the finest straw or reeds. Sometimesthis is colored and woven in various designs, with a "watered" effect. The most beautiful ones, however, have a plain background, with colored figures worked in, as our illustrations show. The one which gives a picture of birds flying across the plain surface, is of remarkably fine quality. The texture is as fine as silk, to the eye, and as pliable as any heavy fabric to the touch. One can hardly believe it is "straw matting," and in fact it is seldom used on the floor.

These finer qualities are used as dados, and even take the place of wall-paper in some instances. They are exceedingly decorative and not expensive. The other illustration gives a beautiful matting which is used instead of a carpet. The prices on these, Japanese goods range between forty cents and a dollar ayard. They are light and easily moved, do not hold dust. cannot hide away termin, and are always bright and cheerful. They cost from tent to a hundred dollars. Many of the newer ones have a high-post head piece with a canopy frame. On this frame are draped art silks edged with ball fringe. It is the old-fashioned idea of bed-canopies, such as were thought

beautiful painting of a child just awaking from sleep.

I wonder how many Busy Bees have an emergency book? Unless you have one, you have no idea how useful it is. Have a scrapbook, not necessarily an expensive one, a homemade one of manilla paper will do. Then, whenever you come across any domestic hint or recipe that seems worth while, paste them in. One of our readers says she keeps one made up specially from Comfort. She divides it into several parts, under the heading "Busy Bees," "Aunt Minerva," "Kitchen Chats," "Facts for Women," etc., and every month clips from Comfort everything worth saving, ("and when I have done that," she says, "there is precious little left of the paper!") Then she pastes them into the book in their proper places. It is an excellent plan, and I recommend it to every Busy Bee.

"Flower" bed-rooms, decorated to match

"Flower" bed-rooms, decorated to match certain flowers, are among the latest fads. The wall-paper has a design of some wild flower—the primrose, for example, and a broad border is used in which this flower is prominent. Cretonne is selected in which this same flower predominates, and is used for curtains, bed-

spread and ruffled pillow-shams. A dull green carpet, or a fine matting may be put on the floor. Toilet covers and towels embroidered with primroses in wash silks are necessary to complete the harmony of the whole. Some, even, go so far, as to embroider sheets and pillows in the same fashion, but that seems a waste of time. Of course other designs may be substituted; and from this hint a woman with ingenuity can evolve a variety of pretty rooms. Among the new fashions for a young girl's bed-spread is one of dotted ecru muslin, made up over unbleached sheeting, or over some color which harmonizes with the room. Pillow-shams may be made to match, and the whole edged with dainty ruffles. Curtains at the window, and toilet-covers of the same material would complete the room in a charming and inexpensive manner. Bolton sheeting embroidered in some simple design in wash silks or linen is very popular for "grown-up" beds.

Here is a good way to utilize the wooden butter-boxes that accumulate in every village or city home. The five-pound boxes are the best, and should first be sand-papered and treated to a coat of white enamel or gilding. Then paint them with a scroll pattern, or a simple design of natural flowers, or a bunch of paper chrysanthemums may be tacked on. The inside may be treated to a coat of enamel to match the prevailing tint of the decorations, or lined with silk; and a big bow of ribbon of the same shade should be tacked on to the cover. They will be found very useful accessories to the toilet or work-table.

Empty cigar-boxes may be treated in the same way—first burning a little alcohol or

Empty cigar-boxes may be treated in the same way—first burning a little alcohol or brandy in the box to remove the smell of tobacco.

A pretty case for a traveling flask is easily made. Cut two pieces of chamois skin or washleather, just the shape but a trifle smaller than the bottle. These should be punctured around the edges and then laced tightly together on the bottle with narrow satin flowers on one side, and a monogram on the other. Hints for monograms may be easily obtained from Aunt Minerva's department; and if you cannot paint, both monogram and spray may be embroidered in fancy silks.

A pretty photograph holder may be continued to the continued of the continued of

in fancy silks.

A pretty photograph holder may be made by cutting white cardboard in fan shape. Any old fan will serve for a pattern. Cut two such pieces, with several openings in one for pieces, and the same shade as the flowers looks well at the bottom. A very pretty one might be made by using artificial English violets (which are plenty and cheap) for the edge, scattering a few here and there over the front side, and tying a small bow of violet colored ribbon to the bottom.

Don't forget, in getting your houses ready for

ored ribbon to the bottom.

Don't forget, in getting your houses ready for summer, to have everything arranged for comfort, and not for show. Let the sunlight in. Don't be afraid of fading your carpets. Use matting and then there will be no danger of the latter. Don't use silk scarfs and tidies in profusion—they have had their day and a little of that kind of decoration goes a great way. Plain, neat, comfortable looking rooms are the modern style, with plenty of soft rugs, softs and easy chairs, and big, inviting pillows and head-rests. Avoid millinery and useless extras. Have nothing too good for daily use—and then use it.

Busy Beg.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

Queen Victoria has been studying Hindostanee Vienna is said to be rivaling Paris as a fashion authority.

Lecture bureaus say there is a constant increase in the demand for woman-lecturers.

Adeline Patti is coming over to sing farewell to us for the seventh time next fall.

There are said to be more women engaged in busi-ness in Finland than in any other country.

Four women were recently arrested in New York as fortune tellers and held in \$200 bail.

A woman-clergyman recently offered the morning prayer in the Wisconsin House of Representatives. Miss Betsy Metcalf of Providence, R. I., braided the first straw bonnet made in this country, in 1798.

The trustees of Vassar College made each member of the Senior Class an Easter gift this spring of a sterling souvenir spoon with a gold bowl.

Mrs. Phœbe Hearst, the widow of the late U. S. Senator from California, is about to erect a million dollar museum in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. Dressmakers in London and Paris furnish elegant toilettes to certain persons for nothing, on condition that they will serve as "a walking advertisement" for them.

The best veterinary surgeon in New Orleans is said to be a woman. She is the wife of a drayman, and does her work without charge, from pure love of animals.

Miss Anna Larson, a Swedish girl, recently gradu-ated at a medical college in Wisconsin, and returned to Sweden with her diploma—the first woman-doctor of her native land.

of her native land.

Woman suffrage is on the increase in England. A
bill lately introduced into Parliament will give
women, if carried, equal rights to vote on parish
property, land allotments, roads, water-supply, lighting and general sanitation.

and general sanitation.

At a Boston divorce court this spring, a woman introduced a 14 inch box full of hair that had been pulled from her head by her infuriated husband at different times. Truly, if hair-pulling isn't to be allowed, marriage is a failure.

Lillian Russell, the tragedienne, has discovered a great future actor in her coachman—a young Indian of the Shinnecock tribe. She is helping him to develop his talent and encourages theatrical managers to expect great things of him. His Indian name is Tacanesee; his stage name will probably be Take-acakee.

CANCER AND ITS CURE.

Drs. McLeish & Weber. 123 John St., Cincinnati, O., have made the treatment of Cancer a specialty for twenty years. Their success is set forth in a "Treatise" mailed free to anyone.

There is a woman jail-keeper in East Greenwich, L. I. She occupies the post that her father and grandfather filled, and the building is somewhat out of repair. Her popularity may be judged by a letter which one of the inmates recently wrote the Governor, saying, "if you don't patch up this place as Mrs. Smith wants it pretty soon, I shall leave."

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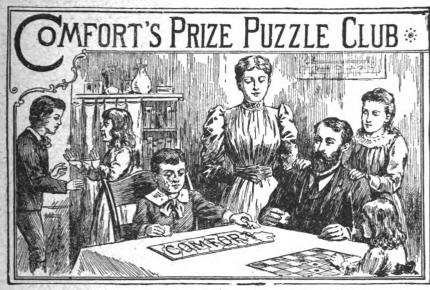
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To become a member of Comport's Prize Puzzle Club, it will be necessary to be a reguiar, yearly, paid-up subscriber to Comport's lot ot send in, at one time, the names of not less than four new subscribers with 25 cents for each, to pay for one year's subscription to Comport. These four or more subscribers must be sent in one lot, and will be received any time before the competition closes.

It must be distinctly understood, however, that abscriptions sent in under this Prize Puzzle Club offer are not entitled to any premiums which may be affered by the publishers of Comport to other getters-up of Clubs. Old and young, men, women, boys and girls, are cordially invited to join the club. We shall publish in May, June, July and August, from six to ten prize puzzles in each issue. We shall award twenty-seven cash prizes, amounting in all to \$100, to those members of the club who send in, before September tenth, the largest number of correct answers to the puzzles published during the four months above named.

The answers to puzzles which appear in these four numbers of Comport, must be sent in one lot, and must reach us before September tenth. Parties may become members at any time, and by securing back numbers may take part in this prize competition; but, as we cannot agree to supply back numbers, and as Comport oots but 25 cents a year, it is for the advantage of all to become members of the Prize Puzzle Club at the earliest possible date.

Competitors must write plainly, on one side of the sheet only, numbering their answers, consecutively, in the order they appear in Comport; and aside from answers to puzzles, letters must contain nothing, whatever, but date, full name and full post-office address of the sender. All replies and lists of new subscribers sent under this offer must be sufficiently stamped, and addressed to EDITOR COMPORT'S PRIZE PUZZLE CLUB, AUGUSTA, MAINE. Remittances should be made by money order, postal note, registered letter, or may be sent in postage stamps at the sender's risk. The member s

And the twenty sending in the twenty next highest number will receive 20 cash prizes of one dollar each

The award of prizes will be announced in the October issue of COMFORT. Should two parties send in the highest number of answers, the one having sent the largest number of subscribers to COMFORT, will be considered first in the awarding of prizes. This competition is open, positively, to members of this club only; and no one may compete who has not fully complied with all the above named conditions.

This competition is open, positively, to members of this club only; and no one may compete who has not fully complied with all the above named conditions.

As our readers will see by the above, the Puzzle Column is reorganized this month on an entirely new basis which will make it one of the most interesting features of this paper to old and young. All subscribers to Comfort are cordially invited to compete in this trial of wits, and those who do not succeed in winning a prize (for not all can win) may, at least, find pleasure and profit in solving the puzzles which we shall try to make as interesting as possible. The value of this work is not simply a question of money. More valuable than money is the exercise it gives the mental faculties, which need brightening up as much as a dull knife needs the whet-stone. Men and women not engaged in occupations requiring brain work are too apt to let their mental faculties tust for want of action. An idle brain, or thoughts spent upon the little daily worries of life, mean premature old age; work for the brain that takes one out of the ruts, means renewed youth, and helps one to think and act with decision.

Men and women engaged entirely in occupations requiring study and thought turn for relief and rest to mechanical employments; for example, one of the Beechers wheeled sand from one side of the cellar to the other to rest his brain. Blackmore, the great novelist, cultivates his garden between his novels, and Black goes on a cruise in his yacht. So men and women, whose lives are spent in mechanical work, can find much profit in any effort that sets the brain in action. Solving a puzzle is as good as a tonic—it is education and calitivation.

Our young readers, too, will find it equally beneficial, for it will serve not only an educational purpose, but give them that aid in the formation of character that comes from any determined effort to surmount difficulties. He who becomes an expert in solving puzzles for amusement, will sometime find the faculty thus gained serve



TREE PUZZLES.

TREE PUZZLES.

What tree ought never to be cold?

What tree should be ready to shake hands?

What tree ought never to be hungry?

What tree ought never to be hungry?

What tree shows signs of fire?

What tree always appears sad?

What tree ought always to be cool?

What tree ought to bear fish?

What tree ought to bear fish?

What tree ought to partish?

GREEK CROSS X X X X X X X X

Upper square:—1, a color, 2, a girl's nickname; 3, one who employs; 4, parts of the body. Lett hand square:—1, formed; 2, related te; 3, an act; 4, the remâins. Right hand square:—1, found on the seashore-2, circumference; 3, an emperor; 4, an abbr. name. Lower square:—1, used in winter sports; 2, relating to time; 3, a girl's name; 4, a term of affection.

CHARADE,

I am a beautiful flower; behead me and I am black; curtail me and restore my head, then I am a very useful little instrument; behead and curtail me, and you will not find me out.

HOUR GLASS.

1, a city in New England. 2, a color. 3, something we should look out to avoid, 4, a letter in swipe. 5, a part of the body. 6, to delay. 7, something every boy can do. The central letters spell a well-known city in the Eastern States.

RIDDLE.

There is a little simple word Composed of letters four;
You'll see it when you enter in The portals of your door.
See it at home, see it without, See it at church or store, This simple little word, I say, Composed of letters four.
You'll see it when you go to walk In some fair garden round;
Or in some meadow, highly prized, This little word is found.
And now, if you just raise your eyes—But this will never do—
But this will never do—
If I should keep on at this rate
'Twould be no guess for you.

ENIGMA.

An ancient and excellent proverb has 32 letters.
17, 3, 22, 4, 26, 31, is a boy's name.
10, 15, 25, 29, was made for purposes of war.
6, 27, 12, 19, 28, means worth.
1, 24, 9, pleases children.
30, 11, 32, 7, is a place we ought to love.
2, 11, 21, refers to temperature or weather.
13, 14, 5, 16, is a small bird.
8, 12, 3, 18, 20, means a garment.
23, 15, 4, 21, 9, is a number.

GEOGRAPHICAL CHARADES.

1. My first is a color; my second is a part of a bird; my whole is a city in Minnesota.

2. My first is a boy's nickname; my second is a relationship; my whole is the capital of one of the United States

3. My first we all dread, my second is a useful tool, my whole is a city in Missouri.

4. My first is a man's name; my second is eagerly sought by many, my whole is a city in Pennsylvania.

For those to whom the solving of puzzles is new work we will give a few points to start with, and suggest, at the same time, that these hints be cut out and saved for future reference. Beheading a word is taking away the first letter. Curtailing is to remove the last letter. A word square reads just the same across and down. A double acrostic may be any number of words corresponding in length; the first and the last letters of each reading downward spell a word. A charade is one word which may be divided in syllables, each syllable representing some object complete in itself, or it may be a short sentence in which each word is treated in the same manner. Charades may be either in prose or in verse.

Anagrams, which are also called transpositions, are made by taking the letters of one word and out of them making a number of words. Example:—Evil, live, vile, veil, Levi. Or by taking a sentence, we will say, Tim in a pet, and putting it into one word—impatient.

A transposition is usually one word whose letters must be transposed to give sense. Example:—May I do this? The question is answered by the word stripes, which, transposed, means, persist.

Enigma, riddle, and puzzle are used more indiscriminately for puzzles that have no definite place.

Now let every one, with this word of explanation.

stripes, which, transposed, means, persist.
Enigma, riddle, and puzzle are used more indiscriminately for puzzles that have no definite place.
Now let every one, with this word of explanation, try his or her best to secure a prize. It is surely a very easy thing to get four subscribers to COMPORT, at only twenty-five cents a year. Speak to your neighbors and relatives and friends. Tell them that, for only a quarter, they get the brightest paper ever published, containing something for young and old, something interesting, instructive and entertaining for everyone. If you live in the country, away from people, write to your acquaintances in the cities and large towns. Surely, you can find, somehow, plenty of people who will be glad to subscribe.
I am sure you will all agree that this is a very generous offer; but this is only the first. Other large offers of cash prizes are to follow, and COMPORT readers are going to be given a splendid chance to earn something, by the exercise of their wits, ingenuity and skill.

COMFORT'S PUZZLE EDITOR.

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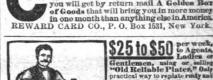
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BY MISS ANNA BARROWS, CHIEF OF DOMESTIC SCIENCE DEPARTMENT, YOUNG WOMAN'S CHRIS TIAN ASSOCIATION, BOSTON, MASS.

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Experience is a good teacher, but fortunate are those who gain their early experience under wise directors.

A child's mother may be ever so good a dressmaker, or his father ever so brilliant a lawyer, but the child must go to school and get the broadening influence of hundreds of other minds, which is all needed for his best development.

The school of Domestic Science, which I wish to tell you about, was established about five years ago by the directors of the Boston Young Women's Christian Association; wise women, who realized the necessity for such training, perhaps from a lack in their own education. They knew how much good was accomplished by the cooking schools, but thought more could be done by a boarding school, where the pupils should have actual practice, not only in cooking but in the general care of a household, in marketing and keeping accounts.

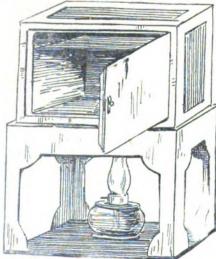
The school was organized by the well-known writer and lecturer, Mrs. Emma P. Ewing. A part of the Young Women's Christian Association building, Boston, was set apart for the use of the school, and the students had practical instruction in the care of these rooms, and in the art and science of cookery. Beside this, the course now includes instruction in sewing, dress-cutting, millinery and home nursing. Since a large part of Christ's work upon earth related to the common needs of the human frame, the mangers of the school feel that it is truly Christian work to show people how to provide and prepare good food for themselves and their children.

During part of the year, one or two classes of twelve year old girls come in for weekly lessons. Other practice-teaching is furnished in connection with a philanthropic work in another part of the city, where girls' clubs and classes in kitchen garden, sewing and cooking, are conducted by the lady at the head of the school and the regular pupils.

It may be seen from this brief outline that the object of this school is to give a general training which will not come amiss in any station of life; and, meantime, to ass

which they may help themselves and their remen.

Several of the graduates took the course as a preparation for homes of their own, and were married soon after completing the course. Some, daughters of well-to-do parents, are at home making the mother's duties easier; some are directing large households, in hotels, or schools or colleges; some are teaching in the West, or among the colored people in the South, or the working women in cities as well as in New England.



ALADDIN OVEN

The pupils come from many conditions and localities—New England, the West, Canada; city and country are represented in the present class. The society young women, who occasionally take the course because they want an object in life, often first they have much to learn from class-mates who are paying their luition by hard work.

A happy group you would say they are, if you saw the presenter in the conditing class-room corefully have tracefor in the conditing class-room corefully.

A happy group you would say they are, if you saw hem together in the cooking class-room carefully

measuring or weighing each ingredient, or trying to ascertain the exact temperature at which some im-portant change in food takes place. But they have few idle moments and their work is by no means

ascertain the exact temperature at which some important change in food takes place. But they have few idle moments and their work is by no means easy.

The cooking school-room is fitted up with desks like a chemical laboratory. Here are also coal and gas ranges, and an Alacdin oven where a single lamp can cook a dinner.

These latter are destined to be very popular with housekeepers. As will be seen by the illustration, the oven is large enough to hold several dishes at once. A kerosene lamp is set under it, and the bottom of the oven is so arranged that the heat is distributed evenly, and everything in the oven cooks perfectly. A whole dinner, by putting the different viands in correct dishes, may thus be cooked at once. This cooker was invented by Edward Atkinson, the noted economist, and is a great saving in heat, space and the quality of the food cooked. Prices range from fourteen to thirty dollars. There is never any smoke, soot or disagreeable odor about it, and, therefore, no trouble in keeping it clean.

Charts, showing the composition of foods, and diagrams, illustrating the way meats are cut by the butcher, hang upon the wall of the class-room. Here are a set of models of different cuts of beef that have deceived many a visitor. Not only are methods of cookery studied, but the nature of the foods, and the new compounds constantly manufactured, and new utensils.

Lectures are given throughout the year by the best teachers of cooking, by physicians, and by marketmen showing how meat is cut up, &c., &c.

The most eager pupils are the very young house-keepers, or those whose diamond ings and eager questions as to housekeeping for two, show what the future has in store for them.

The work is, as yet, in its financy; but a year's, or better a two year's course, is never regretted by those with a natural inclination toward home duties. The school makes no promises as to future positions, yet any woman of good health, and capacity for systematic work, who has fitted herself to prepare wholesome food and direc

THE CHAFING DISH.

to find how much pleasanter it becomes.

THE CHAFING DISH.

For years, the use of the chafing-dish has been considered a fashionable fad adapted only for bachelor's quarters and the sick-room; but it is too scusible a custom to be allowed to go out of fashion, nor need it be confined to the use of fashionable people.

It is not really a modern utensil, for, although it appears in new forms, our grandmothers had similar appliances; those, however, were not suitable for table use; the frame work was clumsy, and charcoal was used for fuel.

The old-time chafing-dishes more nearly resembled the furnaces of the chestnut venders, and were kept in one corner of the fireplace to use when more heat would be undesirable.

The name has the same origin as the verb "chafe," meaning to heat or warm. The dictionary describes this apparatus as "a vessel to hold coals for heating anything set on it," or "with lamps or the like beneath, having a cover used for keeping meat and other food hot."

This then is the real mission of the chafing-dishloserve hot food; and thus it has come to be used for the most perfect preparation of those foods which, like eggs and oysters and chops, require but little cooking.

We seldom get the full flavor of some foods because so much time clapses between the cooking and eating. Epicures prefer those eating houses where the food is cooked before their eyes, even if the other service be less perfect.

Chafing-dishes come in all styles with widely differing prices. They may be obtained for a dollar or less, in cheap tin, while real silver ones cost from one to five hundred dollars.

The very cheap ones wear out quickly and are undesirable, while the every expensive are more ornamental, but will cook no better than those within reach of people of moderate means.



Chaping-Dish.

The nickel chafing-dishes, and those made of granite or agate-ware, costing from \$3 to \$5, are best for every-day people; the former require frequent scouring inside, but bear heat better than the latter. They have a standard to keep the alcohol lamp at a proper distance from the cooking dishes, which are two in number—one for hot water, the other for food, if there is only one pan which comes in direct contact with the flame, it is a brazier rather than a chafing-dish.

The increased use of this apparatus has resulted in the publication of several cook-books especially devoted to it; such are:

"On the Chafing Dish," by H. P. Bailey.

"Cooking with a Chafing Dish," by Miss H. L. Sawtelle.

These are helpful, but one who understands the principles of cookery, is tidy in detail, and deft in movement, can as easily cook on the chafing-dish as on the kitchen range.

Any recipes or suggestions given for the chafing-dish may be imitated with a double boiler on any oil or coal stove.

Much may be accomplished on an alcohol lamp, even on the tiny pocket lamps, which do not cost more than twenty-flue cents.

The traveller, or the man or woman who must write or study late at night, will find a faithful friend in one of these little stoves, even if it is used only to heat a drink of milk; for sleeplessness and bad dreams are often caused by exhaustion for which food is a remedy. They are also valuable in a sick-room.

With careful management, alcohol is not so expenwith careful management, alond is not so expensive a fuel as one might expect. Two young women who prepared their breakfasts and suppers in their one room, which was their only home in the city, preferred to use alcohol instead of having the slightest odor of kerosene. Buying the alcohol by the quart, they found that twenty-five cents a week would provide their fuel.

Very strong alcohol may be diluted with water. To

est odor of kerosene. Buying the alcohol by the quart, they found that twenty-five cents a week would provide their fuel.

Very strong alcohol may be diluted with water. To do this, take a bottle two-thirds or three-fourths full of alcohol and add enough water to nearly fill it, shake vigorously and let it stand sometime before using. Of course, the water does not increase the heativing capacity of the alcohol, simply keeps it from burning out.

The alcohol ishould not be lighted too rapidly—before the food is all ready—and it should be extinguished the instant we are through with it, if we expect it to spend well.

The alcohol lamps used with chafing-dishes are varied in style; some require wicks; in some the alcohol is burned in an open cup.

Last summer a teacher of cooking gave a half dozen short lessons with a chafing-dish on a hotel piazza, using for all only about one pint of alcohol.

It is never wise to try to cook large quantities on a chafing-dish. Although the flame of the alcohol is intensely hot, the lamp is not large enough for the heat to surround the dish as thoroughly as would be the case on a cook stove. A pint of any mixture is about the right quantity to prepare at once in the average chafing-dish.

This paper has no space to devote to any mere recipes, but a few typical dishes may be described. Venison or other game is often cooked at the table by this means, but, in general, raw meat is not attractive to assembled guests.

Oysters or clams should be rinsed and picked over, to remove any bits of shell or seaweed, before they are placed on the table.

Cold meat should be sliced or chopped and any disfiguring portions removed.

Cold potatoes should be pared and sliced, or cut in direct the active to a seawer of the survey of the cold potatoes should be pared and sliced, or cut in direct the active to a seawer of the cold potatoes should be pared and sliced, or cut in direct the active to a seawer of the cold potatoes should be pared and sliced, or cut in direct the active to a seawer of the

are placed on the table.

Cold meat should be sliced or chopped and any disfiguring portions removed.

Cold potatoes should be pared and sliced, or cut in dice; then Lyonnaise potatoes can be quickly served. If bread is toasted crisp it will, keep so for a long time, and will be sufficiently heated by a hot sauce. (This is for the benefit of the housekeeper who lets the fire in the range go out and gets supper at the table.) Or, thin, crisp crackers, zephyrs, may be substituted for toast. The odds or ends of pastry, puff or otherwise, may be cut in triangles or fancy shapes and backed crisp and brown to serve in like manner.

A rather indigestible substitute for toast is produced by melting butter in the pan placed directly over the flame and browning the bread in that. Browned crumbs, bread or cracker, are prepared in the same way, a tablespoonful of butter is nelted in the pan, a half cupful of crumbs added and stirred constantly until the butter is absorbed and they are all of a rich golden brown. In the same fashion, salted almonds or peanuts can be prepared—the nuts are shelled, blanched and browned in butter or oil and the salt sprinkled over them while still hot. Then they are spread on paper to absorb any extra grease.

Salted nuts are a reminder of confectionery, and possibing is more satisfactory for amateur candy-mak-

grease.
Saited nuts are a reminder of confectionery, and nothing is more satisfactory for amateur candy-making than an alcohol lamp.
A few standard sauces are the basis of many which are easily obtained by a change of seasoning.
Bottles of curry powder, beef extract, celery salt, and onion extract should be part of a chafing-dish outfit.



A few standard sauces are the basis of many which are easily obtained by a change of seasoning.

Bottles of curry powder, beef extract, celery salt, and onion extract should be part of a chafing-dish outfit.

The formula for all the sauces is much the same—for a pint, two rounding tablespoonfuls of butter are melted in the pan, an equal amount of flour added, and the whole allowed to cook until frothy, then one pint of liquid is gradually added and the mixture is stirred until it thickens and is smooth. Salt, pepper, celery salt, curry powder, or any dry seasoning, may be added with the flour.

For the liquid for a white sauce, use milk, or milk and white stock (from chicken or veal).

Strained tomato gives a tomato sauce.

To make a brown sauce, let the butter begin to brown, then add the flour and stir until it is quite dark, then add one pint of stock from beef, or beef extract diluted. Slices of cold roast meats are delicious if quickly heated in such a sauce, while long cooking does not improve them.

Sweetbreads, so expensive in the city but often very cheap in the country, after parboiling, may be served in the same way.

The hot water pan is to be used in all cases where a steady gentle heat is required, as for a cheese, custard or welsh rarebit. The cheese should be grated or cut in thin shavings (this may be done previously), melt a table-spoonful of butter in the upper pan, add a half-pound or two cupfuls of cut cheese, stir often while the cheese melts, gradually adding a little milk.

METTLE AND ALCOHOL LAMP.

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LAMP.

LAMP.

Strambled eggs is one of the best subjects for the chafing-dish, and may be much raised by sauces and seasonings, but it is doubtful whether these are a real improvement. A spoonful of butter is melted in the pan, the eggs—only the freshest are to be allowed—are broken into a saucer and then slipped into the pan. A little cream or milk may be added, and the seasoning must be adapted to the taste of the consumer. But the important point is to insure th

the equal cooking of all portions without over-doing any and yet keep yolk and white to some extent distinct.

Chafing-dish parties have been given where a silver dish engraved with the monogram of each guest was placed before him with the venison chop, which he was to cook to suit his own taste, the chafing-dish to oe kept by each as souvenirs of the affair. Few of us can attain to such magnificence, but we all may, with slight expense, provide ourselves with an alcohol lamp or cheap chafing-dish which will give us quite as much comfort.

Something was said in a recent number about the study of sanitation and domestic science. It is not necessary, however, for a woman to take a scientific course before she can understand the first principles of good sanitation. Every housekeeper ought to be able to know the conditions of drains and waterpipes. If your houses have any system of piping for hot and cold water, with either cess-pool or sewer drainage, the best test that any scientific student has yet discovered, is tried with a few cents worth of oil of peppermint. Suppose you have a bath-room on the second floor. Let some one go to the kitchen sink while you stay in the bath-room. Let the other person pour a few drops of peppermint into the sink drain. If you detect the faintest odor of it through the pipes upstairs, there is bad sanitation. Sometimes the experiment is made in the cellar. Of course the smell of peppermint at the opposite end of the piping, must be detected at most immediately. For so powerful is the odor that it will spread itself through the entire house in five minutes. But if any traces of it are detected, at once, by the person not using it, the drainage is wrong.

Uncle Tom's Cabin, by Harriet Beecher Stowe, and The for 14 cents. F. M. Lurron, Publisher, 103 Heade St., New York.

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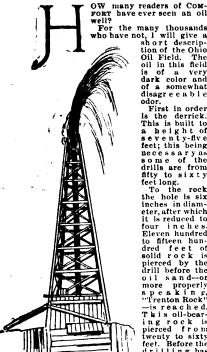
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THE OIL FIELD.

BY CHAS. E. SPECK.

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Oil Field. The oil in this field is of a very dark color and of a somewhat disagreeableodor.

disagree a dood odor.

First in order is the derrick.

This is built to a height of seventy-five

Eleven hundred to fifteen hundred feet of solid rock is pierced by the drill before the oil sand—or more properly speaking, "Trenton Rock"—is reached.

asually contains several hundred feet of oil, which very frequently flows from the mouth of the well when the six of nitro-glycerine—which is inclosed in a long tin tabe—into the well When this is done, and the rope withdrawn, a piece of iron, called the "go-devil" is dropped into the well. This causes the glycerine to arpiode with a "dull thud" which can be heard a great distance. In a few seconds the oil rushes from the mouth of the well, arpiode with a "dull thud" which can be heard a great distance. In a few seconds the oil rushes from the mouth of the well when this is done, and the rope withdrawn, a piece of iron, called the "go-devil" is dropped into the well. This causes the glycerine to arpiode with a "dull thud" which can be heard a great distance. In a few seconds the oil rushes from the mouth of the well with the force of a water-spout, hurling small pieces of rock hundreds of feet into the air. The oil spreads as it ascends, and has a very beautiful appearance. I have seen the oil rise fifty feet above the top of the derrick.

The well being completed, it is "connected up" and the oil runs into one or more tanks which usually holds 250 barre'ss. Should the well prove to be a "gusher," five hundred and eight hundred barrel tanks are used. When these tanks are full of the fluid, the oil is pumped to a pumping station in the district, from whence ? is forced, through underground lines, by means of large pumps, to the main stations.

At these main stations the oil empties into large storage tanks which are made of iron and will hold from 30,000 to 36,000 barrels. From these stations the oil is pumped to Cleveland, Lima and Chicago. These pumping station, with three pumps can force through a four inch line, a distance of thirty miles, 15,000 barrels of oil.

The handling of the nitro-glycerine used in shooting wells is a very dangerous occupation. Only a

HAPPENINGS.

It costs a Harvard College student anywhere from \$400 to \$5,000 a year to live.

A Bussian count was brought to his death lately, by a pair of poisoned gloves prepared for him by the Minilists.

A vagrant negro was sold by the state law in Missouri last month for \$20. The buyer will be entitled to his services for one year.

A Viking ship from Norway is on her way to this country. She is modelled after the ship Lief Erickson used to explore this country nine centuries ago.

Chicago was recently startled by the news that Carter Harrison had escaped from his cage. But it turned out that it was only a big, hald eagle, who was named for Chicago's mayor and who was striving to regain his freedom.

A negro fell headlong against an electric light dynamo in a Western city the other day, and knocked the belt off. He wasn't hurt but he instantaneously put out several hundred lights.

The Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals keeps an agent at the great Chicago Stockyards all the time, but there is little for him to do. The animals are slaughtered instantaneously, at the rate of about three a minute.

The telautograph is the latest invention, and effects the transmission, by wire, of a fac-simile handwriting, either in pen or pencil. Writings, sketches, nusical notations and stenographic reports are, it is said, transmitted with equal facility.

said, transmitted with equal facility.

Lightning struck a great steamer on Long Island Sound last March, and broke fourteen windows. Then, entering on the electric light wire, it tore up sheathing in the state-rooms, and frightened the passengers nearly out of their wits.

The new Postmaster-General has a plan for making the postmaster devote his whole time to Uncle Sam's mail. This is rather hard on country postmasters who have an average of a dozen letters a day, and whe are obliged to combine the post-office with some other business.

The old Aztec race, once so powerful, has been exterminated from the face of the earth by a horrible massacre, under the sanction of President Diaz and the Mexican government. The remnant of this tribe was offered death with the only alternate of giving up their religion. They chose death—and got it.

was offered death with the only alternate of giving up their religion. They chose death—and got it.

The skeletons of a company of forty-three soldiers that have been missing since September, 1879, have just been found in a Colorado canyon. They were discovered by prospectors, and it is supposed they were massacred, as many of the skeletons were still in uniform. The remains of forty-five horses and three piles of guns were in the same gulch.

A fanatic preacher in lower Russia recently claimed the power to raise from the dead; and, with the consent of her parents, strangled a girl of 14 at the close of the sermon in order to demonstrate his pretended ability. Of course he could not restore the girl to life and after two hours' of prayers and exhortations, the parents turned the preacher over to the authorities.

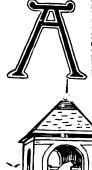
A Jew who died in 1803 in Bessarabia, left a large fortune which his widow placed in the bank of England. It has been accumulating ever since and now amounts to \$300,000,000. An American girl, a Miss Humeric, is said to have proven her right to one-forty-fifth of this sum, and the remainder goes to a Jewish lady living at Ismail, at the mouth of the Danube river.

There is a good prospect of a railroad between Vancouver and Asia across Behring's Strait. The road

Danube river.

There is a good prospect of a railroad between Vancouver and Asia across Behring's Strait. The road has already been surveyed, and the cost is estimated at only \$32,000 a unile. The land survey terminates at Cape Prince of Wales, and at that point the strait is only thirty-six and a half miles wide, with eight islands interspersed between the two shores. Cantilever bridges and ponton, will be used to connect these islands, and a stone break-water will be built to protect the piers from icebergs.

LITTLE NEW-YEAR.



S I was walking down Broad St., in the city of Richmond, Va., one afternoon, I came up with a police officer, watching a funeral procession pass. I was very sad and the gloomy sight oily made me feel worse. Two weeks before I had lost my only child—a lovely little girl. God only knows how I missed the little clinging arms and the sound of the cooing voice.

I was aroused from my dreary reverie by the officer who bade me "good morning." We talked on common the said abruptly:

"Nearly five years ago I found on New Year's morning, right there"—pointing to a stoop—"a little girl. I took her to headquarters and, as no one came for her, the sergeant let Mrs. Kent, a kind widow adopt her. Two days ago, Mrs. Kent died and 'Little New Year' is homeless once more:" he paused, looking after the procession.

At these main stations the oil empties into large storage tanks which are made of iron and wil holder oil is pumped to Cleveland, Linna and Chicago. These pumping stations have a capacity of from 3,000 to 6,000 barrels per day. In twenty-four hours a local pumping station, with three pumps can force through a four inch line, a distance of thirty miles, 15,000 barrels per day. In twenty-four hours a local pumping station, with three pumps can force through a four inch line, a distance of thirty miles, 15,000 barrels well as a very dangerous occupation. Only a few weeks since, a glycerine factory, near Linna Ohlo, blew up, killing one man and seriously information of the victim, except a few small hones which word the victim, except a few small hone which word the victim, except a few small hones which word the victim, except a few small hone which word the victim, except a few small hone which word the victim, except a few small

curis. Doughas knew of the bound of the New Year Suddenly on the still night rang the New Year chimes. Doughas started, but his eyes never left the still white face on the pillow. I looked down at it, weping. The long silken lashes trembled on the white checks. The eyes opened; she looked at her husband and smiled; then the white lids fluttered back.

back.
All was still for a few moments. A heavenly smile rippled over her face, and the little white hands were stretched out.
"Mother, mother," whispered the smiling lips.
A half drawn sigh, the little hands dropped, and "little New-Year" had gone home.

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Those born in May should wear the emerald

The lucky days for May are the 3rd, 6th, 9th, 11th, 14th, 20th, 23rd and 25th; the unlucky ones are the 4th, 5th, 8th, 12th, 17th, 18th, 21st, 24th, 29th and 30th. The 1st, 2nd, 7th, 13th, 16th, 19th, 27th and 28th are pronounced doubtful by a famous astrologer, and the few remaining days in the month are not of any particular importance either way.

To-day Comfort has a fellow-feeling with the United States. The youngest nation in the world is the centre of observation, as the cleverest and the most powerful country; and Com-FORT, the youngest of her great papers, leads them all in popularity and circulation. Appreciation is sweet to us all, and Columbia and Comfort are both tasting it this year.

The Prize Puzzle Department begun in this issue cannot but furnish an entertainment both pleasing and profitable in the million and a quarter homes where Comfort is now a constant visitor.

It taxes the skill, talent, and ingenuity; and as it is our intention to increase the cash prizes, those who fail to enter the charmed circle in this contest will be sharpening their wits for future ones.

One of the popular features of this department is that old and young-the entire family -can participate.

With the spring of the year, the hearts of all people turn to out-of-door pleasures. At this season all lovers of flowers long to see the first green sprouts, and in the May sunshine watch them grow to blossoming time. Hundreds of thousands of our readers live in the country, and to them, with the aid of the many florists who speak to them in the columns of our paper, and whose books and catalogues may be obtained free, there is no difficulty in knowing what seeds to sow, when to sow them, and how to tend them. Nor is any one of the thousands of city readers deterred from a share in this spring pleasure; for window boxes are inex-

pensive, and seeds for them as easily obtained We hope no Comfort reader will be without some green, flowering thing to tend, for flowers are a cultivation of the mind and heart as well as a pleasure to the eye.

After several years of preparation, during which it has been one of the most interesting topics of the time, the World's Fair is at last open. It is too early to speak of the exhibits, but our readers may feel sure that Comfort will be well represented on the ground, and that every month they will be provided with interesting reading from Chicago. Though too early to speak with detail of the Fair, it is a satisfactory matter of pride to every American that the buildings are pronounced by men who have traveled the world over to be in style, taste, and construction the most magnificent specimens of architecture that have ever been seen. At last the United States, so often accused of being tawdry and cheap in such matters, has surpassed all other countries, and commanded the respect of the world, for the liberality of her plans, and the admirable manner in which they have been executed.

The World's Fair is more than a mere cele bration, it is an event of international importance, a congress where the nations of the Globe are to meet, and their achievements be compared; where those who take a proper interest in their own country, and in the progress of other nations, can study the comparative condition of the industries and the arts in the

civilized world.

The interest which other nations (even such a remote and reticent government as Japan whose artisans have for three years had no other interest so much at heart as their representation at the F? ') take in this exhibit, should inspire every patriotic American with a determination to visit Chicago. It may seem

like an expense hard to meet, but those who miss it will hereafter reproach themselves severely. In the meantime, every possible arrangement will be made to enable those of moderate means to go to the Fair, and the expense of the trip will be a profitable investment for all who appreciate for themselves and their children the educational advantages of such a

It is the hero's reward that he shall be remembered. Memorial Day is no longer a day of mourning. The generation whose hearts were broken by the horrors of the war has been soothed by time, and when Decoration Day comes round it is pride and not tears that it arouses. The ceremony of gratitude which the nation has decreed its heroes is a beautiful one. Once every year, in May, the country pauses in its hurry and selfish plans, and, on the day set apart, thinks with gratitude of those who fought and died so bravely. We may not believe in war, but we cannot but respect the men, who forgetful of self, died for an idea, and when the tiny flags wave in the spring winds, and bright flowers proclaim to all, "here lies a hero," we feel that they who have died for us have won what is denied the great majority-the boon of being unforgotten.

T last the Independence Bell has safely made its journey from the hall in the Old State House at Philadelphia to its place in the rotunda of the Pennsylvania Building at the World's Fair. Four

days were consumed in its passage, and its progress was like a triumphal march. On April 25th, the old bell, which was first rung in 1753, started for Chicago. It was escorted

by a distinguished party, including Mayor Edwin S. Stewart, and other officials of the City of Philadelphia. A special car had been built for its transportation, and it was profusely dec-orated with the national colors. The route taken was a circuitous one to enable the residents of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois to see the bell and cheer it lustily, which they did. The train made its first stop at Harrisburg, proceding thence to Sunbury, Williamsport, Titusville,Oil City, and Franklin, stopping from one to five hours at each place, and awakening great enthusiasm everywhere. It will be one of the most interesting of the Pennsylvania ex-No child with an active imagination will look up at the now silent bell-through one side of which extends a long crack, and whereon are the prophetic words, "proclaim liberty throughout all the land and unto all the inhabitants thereof," words which were cast there nearly 25 years before freedom came to the States-without recalling that it was one of them, a child, that gave the signal for the first peal of the bell when independence was proclaimed. No one can look upon this bell, which on that great day for two hours rang out the decree of freedom, without feeling a deep stirring emotion of patriotism, without appreciating his duty to the land for which our fathers strove and dared so much. It will be one of the lessons of the Fair, and it is a lesson which Americans to-day, secure in prosperity, thinking more of gain than of their duty as citizens, sorely need to impress upon their children. Every generation until the present one has sacrificed something for patriotism. Let the holy love of country not die in this generation of peace. And there is no better way to rekindle it than by emphasizing the heroism of the men who boldly staked their lives and pos-sessions when the Independence Bell rang out national liberty.

WORLD'S FAIR ITEMS.

The women of England will have a notable display of pottery.

A complete English railway train will be exhibited at the World's Fair.

A coal mine with both an exterior and in-terior view, will be part of lowa's exhibit. New South Wales (Australia) will have a large marine exhibit in the Fisheries' building. A real, genuine convent with cells, stone mullions and courtyard, will be a feature of the Fair.

Hiawatha bearing Minnehaha across a turbu-lent river will be among the statuary from Minnesota.

A collection of curios that once belonged to Prince Joseph Bonaparte will be in the Woman's Department.

Mrs. Roth of Illinois, the champion woman farmer of that State, is to have a grand display of farm products.

Queen Victoria has consented to loan the famous painting known as "The Roll-call" from her palace at Osborne.

A colony from Lapland are to be at the Ex-position and will live in huts patterned after their native dwellings

A Mahogany vestibule train, 400 feet long and equipped in the highest style of modern art, will be exhibited by the Canadian Pacific R. R.

East India is to have a tea house where natives, dressed according to Eastern fashion, will serve tea grown in India, in native cups and saucers.

A model of the old cliff-dweller's houses in New Mexico has been constructed by an enter-prising archæologist, and will stand near Prof. Putnam's Indian Camp.

The old wagon which saw four year's service with Sherman's army, and has since reposed peacefully in the National Museum at Wash-ington, will be on exhibition.

A collection of queer hunting and fishing out-fits from Alaska and the Aleutian islands will be a feature of the great historical exhibit in the transportation building.

English women are greatly interested in the World's Fair. A fine display will be made by the Royal School of Art Needlework. Among other things will be a cushion designed by Princess Louise.

Princess Louise.

Germany's exhibit, according to a conservative estimate, will be worth 40,000,000 marks, or over \$10,000,000. It will occupy space in nine different buildings outside of the German building and the Krupp Gun display.

The Krupp guns will occupy a building 85 feet by 200. The biggest gun weighs 122 tons and fires an explosive shell weighing 2,300 pounds a distance of sixteen miles. The value of the entire display will be about \$1,000,000.

About Needles and Thread.

Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.

ECESSITY is indeed the mother

of invention. No sooner does man see that he needs some-thing than instinct seems to teach him to overcome the neces-sity and make what he When Adam and Eve

When Adam and Eve discovered that they were naked in the Garden of Eden, they immediately set about making themselves garments from fig leaves. Doubtless they took a thorn and the fibre of some tree to sew the leaves together and fashion a necessary garment.

leaves together and fashion a necessary garment.

The needle which my lady uses to-day is a most elaborate little implement, in spite of its size and simple appearance, but it serves its purpose no better than did the similar implement of bone, ivory, stone, bronze, or wood, which has been in use since prehistoric times.

Needles of bone with eyes in them were found in the rein-deer caves of France, and in the prehistoric lake dwellings of

Central Europe.

Ancient bone needles three and one-half inches long were found in the Egyptian ruins, and in the museum at Naples are surgeon needlest taken from Pompell.

The most sawage tribes have the as over of awl to punch the hole and then push the thread through. This was in all probability the method employed by the first men. Clothing having been originally made from the skins of beasts, the only sewing required was the contract of the contract of

ONEY loaned without security of interest. Stamp for particulars. R. J. CAMPBELL, Flirt, Mich.

"LANDING OF COLUMBUS." Fine engraving Every patriotic 1892
1492 American should own this souvenir of the Columbian year. 1892
Only 25 cents, silver. BOX 57, SULPHUR, KY.

IF YOU WANT A GOOD GOLD WATCH Ladies or Gents size. write to day and enclose 2c stamp Agents wanted. Address, FRED H. McCLURE, Box 463, Detroit, Mich.

ADIES Can obtain pleasant and profitable work by addressing the Contrexe lie Mfg. Co., Manville, R.I., makers of Normandie Plushrs.

Headache it. A book About Headaches, free. J. B. Simas Co., Haverhill, Mass

BUGGIES, Carriages, Harness, Catalog free. Write

\$75.00 TO \$250.00 can be made monthly working for B. F.

\$1 An Hour New wonderful novelty, \$2 sample free to agts. Enclose 10c. C. W. OSMUN, 2 Chatham Row, Boston, Mass.

12 Cents In stamps will buy, postpaid, 5 pieces latest. Sheet Music, neatly bound, 3 Songs and 2 Mazurkas which retail for \$1.75. Catlog free. W.HUYETT MUSIC CO., Chicago, III.

AGENTS GUM TISSUE mends clothing better than needle and thread; sliks, woolens, by mail. STAYNOR & CO., Providence, E. I.

SCOTT STAMP AND COIN CO., L'O. 18 EAST 23d St. NEW YORK, N. Y. Dealers in Postage Stamps and Coins. We pay the highest prices for all kinds of United States stamps. Send samples for quotations.

TELEGRAPHY.

CHINA ASTERS (See dling Plants, They are my specialty, Mixed all colors, by mail. 12 for 25c., 30 for 50c., 75 for \$1.00. A. J. BINLEY Florist, Glens Falls, N. Y.



are m ade strong by "Baby's Delight-amuses them for hoursnot a toy-goes up and down in
his saddle by his own efforts-prevents bowiegs-strengthens-dectors recommend it-6 months to 4
years. Delivered free, east of
Chicago and north of Baltimore.
WILDER MFG. CO., Wash'n St., Salem, Mass.

Send 5c. postage for 100 samples and "Guide, How to Paper and Economy in Home Decoration." All the latest designs at very lowest prices. ALFRED PEATS, 30-32 W. 13th St., New York, 136-138 W. Madison St., Chicago. Send to nearest address.

Special to Agents. We will dispose of our line of agent's novel-ties at greatly reduced prices, as we are going to discontinue our agency department, and manufacture for the trade only. This stock includes the finest line of goods ever offered to agents and at our prices an agent can make 200 per cent. The stock is new and first class in every respect. Do not miss this opportunity. It will not occur again. Write at once. Enclose stamp for circulars and price list.

EUREKA MFG. CO. La Crosse. Wis.

EUREKA MFG. CO., La Crosse, Wis. ORDER ONE NOW! THOMPSON'S POCKET SPELLER.



Convenient Size to carry in Vest Pocket. Containing 22,800 words and their definitions, given names of men and women, rules for the use of capitals and punctuation marks, business torms, postal laws, laws of etiquette, tables of weights and measures, erassible tablet for memorandums, etc. Price, bound in American Russia leather, gilt edge and indexed, 50 cents; bound in imitation seal, red edge and not indexed, 25 cents. Sent prepaid on receipt of P.O. order. Meating of the property of the





WOODBURY'S FACIAL SOAP, SCALP. SKIN AND COMPLEXION

The result of 20 years practical experience in treating the Skin and Scalp, a medicinal toilet soap for bathing and beautifying. Prepared by a dermatologist. Sold by druggists, grocers and dry goods dealers, or sent by mall, 3 cakes for \$1.00.

WOODBURY'S

ANTISEPTIC SHAVING STICKS & BARS.
Impossible to contract a skin disease when used.

Insist on your barber using it when shaving you. Sticks, 25c.; Barbers Bars, 15c., 2 for 25c.



A Sample Cake of Pacial Soap and a 150 page book on Dermatology and Beauty, illustrated; on Skin, Scalp, Nervous and Blood Diseases and their treatment, sent sealed on receipt of 10 cts.; also Disfigurements, like Birth Marks, Moles, Warts, India Ink and Powder Marks, Scars, Pittings, Redness of Nose, Superfluois Hair, Pinples, Facial Development, Changing the Features, Shaping the Fars, Nose, etc.

ng the Ears, Nose, etc.

OHN H. WOODBERY, Dermatologist,

125 West 424 Street, New York City.

Consultation Free at Office or by letter



ELITOR'S NOTE. The following rules govern the publication of all matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular sub-ribers to Comfort, and every contribution must bear e writer's own name and post office address in full.

the writer's own name and post office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may reach \$50. Contributors must write on one side of their paper only.

Every month a number of prize monograms composed of the writer's initials, will be awarded to those sending the best contributions. These monograms, which will be most desirable ornaments for stationery, cards, etc., will be printed in connection with the respective letters, and new electrotypes of same will be mailed, post paid, to the prize winners.

SPECIAL CASH PRIZES.

In order to still further increase interest and encourage competition in this department, the following cash prizes are offered:

1st. For the best original letter received between May 1st and September 1st, \$10.00.

2nd. For the second best original letter, \$7.50 and. The competition positively closes September first, and awards will be published in the October issue. The above is naddition to the Monogram prizes and the rules here printed must be carefully observed. This competition is open to every requirer paid-up yearly subscriber to "Comfort" who shall, in addition to being a subscriber himself, send the name of at least one new subscriber himself, send the name of at least one new subscriber himself, send the name of at least one new subscriber as subscriber so sent.

Letters must not exceed 650 words in length, and should be as short as possible. Short letters will receive the preference over long ones.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

MAY MONOGRAM PRIZE WINNERS.

C. P. Nettleton,
D. J. Emile Mercier,
Gilbert H. Moen,
Mrs. A. M. Dee,
W. E. Lanigan,
K. M. Ross.

EAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES:
Good news for the Cousins this month!
In the first place, as many of you belong to
the gentler sex you will be specially interested
in the prizes offered to the Busy Bees in this
issue.

issue.

Then there is the grand prize offer in the new Pusale Club and another bashe Nutshell Story Club, which is open to all who comply with the conditions given. But now, in addition to all these ways of maxing money, I have the pleasure of calling attention to the above cash prize competition.

Now, let us see exactly what you are to do and not to do. First, think of something interesting and original to write about.

Bon't try to write of things you know nothing about.

Don't copy other Cousins, or out of a book. Be

about. Don't copy other Cousins, or out of a book. Be original.

Don't begin with these sentence:

"I live in the state of So-and-So."

"I have come to join your circle, dear Auntle."

"I thought I would write you, and therefore seat myself with pen in hand." Or any other of those old-fashioned stock phrases.

First, if the State in which you live matters to us, work it into your letter in some inconspicuous place. Second, your letter itself is evidence that you want to join our circle. Third, of course you take your pen in hand. People seldom take pens in their feet, and very few of the Comport Cousins substitute the typewriter for the pen. Persons of average intelligence will take it for granted that you take your pen in hand.

You see this contest is intended to tax your skill, your ingenuity, your inventive power, and, above all, your originality.

Write about something no one else has written about to the Corner, and don't make your letter like any other Cousin's letter. On the contrary, make it just as different as can be. Make it as short as possible and still give all the facts in connection with the subject.

ubject.

Don't write on both sides of your paper. We rebon't write on both sides of your paper. We releve between 5,000 and 6,000 letters a day at COMFORT

Mice. So you see what a good chance a poorly writen, badly spelled letter has of going into the waste-

basket.

Begin your letter with the subject matter at once, and not explain how you come to write, or apologize to us for writing.

I knew a young lady who went into a large business house to take charge of the correspondence. The first letter she had to write was to a man who had not lived up to a certain contract, previously agreed upon.

what shall I say?" she asked the head of the firm.

"What shall I say?" she asked the head of the firm.

"What would you say if you were to see him personally?" was the reply.

"Why, I should say, 'You have broken your contract,'" said the girl.

"Well, say that, then," was all the answer she got from her superior. She went to her desk. Bye and bye she brought the letter to her employer. He took it and looked it over. There were several long pages of it, three of which were devoted to introductory explanations. When her employer came to the real vital part of the letter, he found the "gist" of it occupying about four lines. Then he laid the rest saide, and said:

"Now, your letter begins right here, on the fourth page. Throw away the rest and end it just where you stopped."

page. Throw away the rest and end it just where you stopped."
The young woman learned a valuable lesson right there and afterwards became a most competent correspondent and business woman at a salary of \$2,000 a year. There is a lesson in the story for every would-be writer and breadwinner.

Now, read the conditions at the head again very carefully. And I shall expect to receive many interesting and helpful letters. I am sure you can all write just what I want, and that you will, by using patience and care, astonish me with the bright, original letters I shall receive.

It will be an excellent plan for you to write out your letters carefully. Then go over them the second time and cut out every word that is not needed to tell the story of what you want to say. Then go over it a third time, winnowing out superfluous words and sentences. You can have no better training to fit you for a journalist or a writer's work. The advice of a certain city editor to his force, "Boil it down," is now almost as famous and quite as pertinent as Horace Greeley's well-known saying: "Go West young man; go West!"

Well, let us see what we have from the Cousins this month. Here is somethine instructive about the

Well, let us see what we have from the Cousins this month. Here is something instructive about the Chinese quarter in San Francisco:

"It is not nearly as dangerous a place as many sup-



pose, although once in a while a murder does take place there Al! the Chinese in America belong to one of the "Six Companies," and as these are antagonistic to cach other they conflict so often as to give the police a good deal of trouble The first thing a stranger notices in Chinatown, aside from the great number of Chinese themselves, is the horrible stench emanating from the piles of rub bish in the streets. The people seem to be absolutely oblivious to flith. Women and girls wear no covering on their heads except their glossy black hair. Their Joss houses are open to any one who wishes to enter; and here they spend money lavishly The lamps suspended from the ceiling are surrounded with rows of pendant crystals of different sizes and considerable value, and have a brilliant appearance when lighted. Heavy marble and bronze ornaments stand in front of idols that are most hideous to the American eye. The odor of the incense always burning in the room is rather pleasant. Each visitor is expected to make a purchase to the value of 25c. In the stores are rare carvings in ivory, beautiful embroidered screens, exquisite chessmen, and a thousand other lovely things. One freplace screen, which I once saw, was beautiful beyond description, being almost wholly of ebony inlaid with very showy de signs in mother-of-pearl. The price of this was \$500.00, but I presume a hundred less would have bought it, they are so fond of charging much, and taking less. In all the better stores the Chinese merchants are very courteous, and speak a vour language well. Some things are really cheap; cats-eyes, for instance, are only 40c. a dozen, black or white, pierced or whole."

C. P. NETTLETON Hayward's, Cal. Perhaps some one would like to hear about the large oyster beds of Maryland. These beds or bars



C. P. NETTLETON Hayward's, Cal.

Perhaps some one would like to hear about the large oyster beds of Maryland. These beds or bars are mostly natural, and abound in oysters of all sizes. The oysters are caught by oystermen, who are of three classes, viz:—dredgers, scrapers and tongers.

are of three classes, viz:—dredgers, scrapers and tongers.

"The dredgers work by means of a boat, of over 10 tons burden and use an instrument called a dredge. The scrapers are the same, except that they use a smaller boat. The tongers use tongs or rakes, the heads of which are made of iron or steel, and the shafts of wood. The unnatural or bedded oysters are caught by the tongers, and placed in a small cove, where the tide is sufficiently strong to keep the creek clear and the water clear, and are left there until they get very large, when they are caught and shipped."

N. CLAUDE BENSON, Royal Oak, Md.

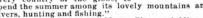
A. Canadian Cousin writes:—"The Montmorency



until they get very large, when they are caught and shipped."

N. CLAUDE BENSON, Royal Oak, Md.

A Canadian Cousin writes:—"The Montmorency Falls are 280 feet high. The ruins seen at the top of the cataract are all that remain of the Suspension Bridge. In 1856, a few months after its completion, this bridge broke down, carrying with it, into the raging waters below, the unfortunate Ignace Cote and his wife. All traces of them were forever lost. Opposite Montmorency, on the other side of the River St. Lawrence, is the Isle of Orleans, the inhabitants of which have preserved many customs and manners of the ancient Canadians. Tradition tells us that the Isle of Orleans was the favorite of the brownies and fairies Montmorency Falls is only six miles from Quebec, and since Aug, 8, 1889, we have the St. Anne's railroad passing through here. As the train draws near the St. Anne station, the traveller gets a good view of the Basilica, and of the village, which is very pretty indeed, with its dark background of hills, and Cape Tourmente, 1800 feet high in the distance, overlooking the whole. The origin of St. Anne dates back almost to the earliest times of the colonization of Canada. In 1645 the first missionary priest, Mr. de Saint Sauveur of Quebec, arrived at St. Anne. The present Basilica or Cathedral was opened for public worship on the Thin 18-25 pillering from all over the Cousins have, and I consider it one of the most the Cousins have, and I consider it one of the most



D. J. EMILE MERCIER, Montmorency Falls,
D. J. EMILE MERCIER, Montmorency Falls,
P. Q. Canada
I visited that region once, as I presume many of
the Cousins have, and I consider it one of the most
beautiful places in America. It is not often that I
get a letter from a foreign Cousin, but here is one
from a Norway boy:
"The Norwegians are a thrifty, prosperous people
with a deep interest in religion and education. Not
a child is now growing up there, among the lower
classes, without learning how to
read and write; and those who are
more well-to-do are attending
high schools and seminaries. The
peasants live down in the valleys
in the winter time, but when
spring comes forth they move
with their cattle up to their summer dwellings on the mountains.
In the summertime a great number of tourists come from nearly
every country of the globe, to
spend the summer among its lovely mountains and
rivers, hunting and fishing."

GILBERT H. MOEN, Glenwood, Minn.

We are glad to welcome the Norway Cousin both
to this circle and to America. Norway is said to be a
most beautiful country and there is yet much to be
written about it. From the Scandinavian peninsula
to Oregon is a long jump; but I am sure we can take
it—on paper. We land in Willamette Valley, between the Cascade and the Coast Ranges of mountains:

"The grand old sentinel, Mt. Hood, is the highest
chout the content of the coast Ranges of mountains:



it—on paper. We land in Willamette Valley, between the Cascade and the Coast Ranges of mountains:

"The grand old sentinel, Mt. Hood, is the highest (about 14,000 feet) as well as the most beautiful of the Cascade Mountains. Mt. Jefferson, Mary's Peak and the Three Sisters are also in the Cascades. The last named are three snow-capped peaks standing side by side, of almost exactly the same height (about 10,000 feet). With the rosy tints of sunset on them, the blue foot hills, rugged rocks, and the beautiful McKenzie river, rushing over its rocky bed, they make a picture worthy of the best efforts of any artist. We have lovely sunsets there, into which all the colors of the rainbow are blended in harmony. One lady lately from the East said: 'If people were to see such gorgeous colors in pictures, they would declare they were not true to nature.' I think Sunset Cox had surely been on this coast before he wrote his famous description that won for him his nickname. 'Crater Lake' near the California line is also in this State. It is over 20 miles in circumference. Walls 1,000 to 2,000 feet above the surface surround the lake. In the midst rises a perfect but extinct volcano about 600 feet high, its sides sparsely covered with hemlock. The lava flow from this has formed an island about two miles in circumference. This is called 'Witches Caldron.' The Indians have many superstitions concerning this lake. A cave in routhern oregon rivals the 'Mammoth,' but it has not been thoroughly explored yet.'

(Mrs.) A. M. DEE, McMinnville, Oregon.



This is not only an interesting description of what must be a magnificent country, but the writer made it particularly valuable by sending with it a pencil sketch the "Three Sisters," which helps our artist to put before you some idea of the grandeur of the scenery

in that 'egion Sometimes, if you are able to Jo this, it will greatly enhance the value of your 'etter I suppose this is as good a place as any to say that there is no longer room in this Corner for personal requests and answers. In order to make the space valuable to every reader, I cannot devote any of it to personal matters affecting only a very few people Do you see what I mean?

Again, I have so many letters to read that I must request you to write with ink, on one side of the sheet only, and to spell your words correctly. This latter request may seem strange to some of you, but perhaps all of us need to consult a dictionary oftener than we think.

"I suppose." says a Western Cousin, "all the Cousins have seen one or more of the new postage stamps which the government is issuing this year in honor of the Admiral of the ocean sea. Has any one observed the inconsistency which exists between the portrait of Columbus which appears on the one-cent stamp and the picture of the same person that is found on the two-cent stamp?

The one-cent is sue represents Columbus in sight of land. The face of the great navigator is bare. The two-cent stamp represents the landing of Columbus. He wears a heavy beard. As the difference in time between these two events was only a few hours, the climate of America at that time must have been a wonderful one to produce such a great change. This is somewhat similar to a case of incongruity between pictures of the same person which I observed in an illustrated magazine about two years ago. On one page, the hegoine of the story, wearing a handsome dress, was represented as standing near a small clump of trees. In the distance could be seen the approaching figure of the girl's lover. On the opposite page of the magazine was a picture representing the meeting of the lovers. Strange to say, the young lady had in some magical way been able to effect a complete change of attire and to appear in an entirely different costume from that she had worn only a minute or two before. Such mistakes a

the least." W. E. LANIGAN, Lincoln, Logan Co., Ill.

I suppose the difference in Columbus' face on the various stamps may be partially accounted for by the fact that there are at least seven, so-called, authentic portraits of the great discoverer in existence! I saw a collection of reprints from them once, and they were decidedly funny! Perhaps each Columbian stamp was given to a different artist, and they each copied a different model. If so, they perpetrated an excellent joke on Uncle Sam!

If this had happered in modern times it could have been easily accounted for, by saying that Columbus must have taken advantage of the advertisement in Comport headed "Fun for the Boys."

Here is an instructive item about the way the Comanche Indians, down in Texas, poison their arrows:



they can grab their wounded and carry JOHN T. STRALEY, Comanche, Texas.

them away." John T. Straley, Comanche, Texas.

This letter contained valuable information but it was carelessly written in pencil, and had to be edited a good deal. In such cases it is hardly fair to award a Monogram, is it? Who among you knows anything about the new modern language Volapuk?

"Volapuk was invented in 1879 by Father Schleyer, a Catholic priest of Germany." For several years it made but little headway, but having once gained a foothold through the energy and perseverance of the inventor, it made friends so rapidly that at the close of 1887 it was estimated that about 200,000 people, mostly Europeans, had become familiar with it. In 1887 an English text-book on the subject appeared, and aroused m u c h enthusiasm. Several American grammars were published and the spread of Volapuk in this country has been marvelous At the present time it is estimated that there are over 200,000 people in Europe are well acquainted with the language. Two journals are now published in this country devoted wholly to Volapuk, and there are organizations for its propagation in 17 States. Is not this a good record for 13 years? It is estimated that a person of fair intelligence can master Volapuk by ordinary application, sufficiently to correspond in it, or to read it fairly well, with six weeks' study; while a person familiar with hanguages can do the same in as many hours. I am confident that Volapuk will be the universal language of to-morrow."

Vermont is the banner maple sugar State, but it takes a New Yorker to give us the following good

Vermont is the banner maple sugar State, but it takes a New Yorker to give us the following good description of how it is made:

description of how it is made:

"As soon as the snow banks along the fences begin to soften in the bright, warm sunlight, we begin to think of getting out the buckets, and soon the tapping process begins. A hole is bored into the trabout one inch and a half, where a wooden or metal spile is inserted. If the air is warm and the spile driven in such a manner as to allow no leaking, the sap comes forth in a tiny stream, at first, which gradually diminishes until it only drops. In about five hours from the time of tapping.



the sap must be taken from the buckets in order to keep them from running over, and emptied into casks at the sugar house. The first time it is gathered with a yoke and two pails; but often, after that, a sled drawn by a team of horses on which is strapped, or chained, a barrel in a horizontal position, with a hole in the top for a tunnel, is used. Then from all the trees is taken the sap and poured into this barrel. As soon as it is filled it is drawn to the hut, sometimes on snow and at other times on dry ground, and so on until it is all gathered in. The pans are placed on an arch about thirteen feet long, with a fire in one end on cast-iron grates. The pans being placed one back of the other, the blaze must be carried under the blaze must be carried under the blaze pan by means of a chimney about twenty-five feet high. The sap is conveyed to the back pan by means of a feeding tub for that purpose, and in this it is heated nearly to a boiling point, and from this pan it is dipped into the front pan in which it is boiled to syrup. The syrup is generally taken to the house where it is boiled down to sugar

THE GETTING IT DOWN is bad enough, with the ordinary pill. But the having it down is worse. And, after all the disturbance, there's only a little temporary good.

only a little temporary good.

From beginning to end, Dr.
Pierce's Pleasant Pellets are
better. They're the smallest
and easiest to take—tiny,
sugar-coated granules that
any child is ready for. Then
they do their work so easily
and so naturally that it lasts.
They absolutely and permanently cure Constipation, Indigestion, Bilious Attacks,
Sick and Bilious Headaches, and all derangements of the liver, stomach and bowels.
They're guaranteed to give satisfaction, or
your money is returned.

THE MAKERS of Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy say: "If we can't cure your Catarrh no matter what your case is we'll pay you \$500 in cash." Now you can see what is said of other remedies, and decide which is most likely to cure Costs only 50 cents.



Stop Quick! The Imperial Bit makes it easy to manage the most nervous or vicious horse. It also cures tongue lolling and side pullier, and don't annoy tender mouths. Sample postpaid, nickel-plate, \$2; x.c. plate or Japan, \$t. Tryit. It may save your fife. IMPERIAL BIT AND SNAP CO., Raclee, Wa.

SILVERWARE Elegant sain lined Casket of Spoons, Knives, AGENTS WANTED box 5, Wallingford Silver C

Write to FRANKLIN PUTNAM, 485 Canal St., N. Y.

HE IS THE MAN
who STARTS MEN and Women in Practical
Photography to earn money at home. Start Right! 9
Don't fool away money on "Dunny" apparatus. But small
means and no experience required. It will PAY YOU.

WALL PAPER 2 Cts. postage for 100 samples, 56-will buy paper far large books 25c. Wide fine Parlor BEONZES 101c 20c. UTS 4c. 20 styles WHITES 2c roll. Handsome wide 18-inch border cheaper than any house, 5 \(\pi \) for cash. NonTrust Keim M't'g Co.177-9 Elm St. Cincinnati, O.





Gibbs' Patent Dust Protector protect the nose and mouth from inhalations o poisonous dust. Invaluable in mills and factories. Perfect ventilation. Nick postpaid. Circula Gibbs Respirator appury selling the

MUNEY "New Model. Hall.
Tyrewaiter." Agenrs allowed
better commissions than ever before offered by a standard company. Sell a useful article, please
everybody and make money your-N. TYPEWRITER CO., Boston, Mass.



WIFE SAYS SHE CANNOT SEE HOW YOU DO IT FOR THE MONEY.

\$12 Buys a \$65.00 Improved On ford Singer short finished, adapted to light and heavy work with a complete set of the latest improved attachments or of the latest improved attachments. with a complete set of the latest improved attachments

FREE. Each machine is guaranteed for years. Buy
direct from our factory, and save dealers and spent

OXFORD MFG, CO., Dept. 79, CHICAGO, ILI-





BABY CARRIAGES

A \$25.00 Carriage for ... \$12.50
An \$18.00 Carriage for ... \$9.75
A \$12.00 Carriage for ... \$6.85
A \$6.00 Carriage for ... \$2.95

A \$6.00 Carriage for.....\$6.85

A \$6.00 Carriage for.....\$9.80

Latest styles. All carriages fully warranted and shipped anywhere to anyone at WHOLESALE PRICES with privilege to examine. Send for illustrated catalogue free. CASH BUYERS' UNION, 1164 W. Van Buren St., B 1, Chicago, Ill.

FOR ASTHMA Catarrh, Hay Fever, Diphtheria, Croup and

HIMROD'S CURE

Common Colds. Send for a Free Sample. HIMROD MANUF. CO., 191 Fulton St., New York.



D. NEEDHAM'S SONS. Inter-Ocean Building, or. Madison and Dearbern Streets, CHICAGO RED CLOVER BLOSSOMS,

And FIGUD and SOLID EXTRACTS
OF THE BLOSSOMS. The BEST
BLOOD PURIFIER KNOWN, Cure
Cancer, Catarrh, Sait Rheum, Exema,
Rheumatim, Dyspepia, Sick Headache, Constitution, Piles, WhoopingCough, and all BLOOD DINKAKES,
Send for circular. Mention thispaper



in a large pan placed on the stove. When taken off it is dipped into cans or tubs in which it cools, and when hard it is easily taken from these dishes, and is fit for a king. The latter process is called sugaringoff." N. Julian Klock, Bath, Steuben Co., N. Y.



(Will this lady kindly send her address again?)
As an example of the appreciative letters that
reach me from time to time, regarding the paper
which we are trying to make the best in the land, I
am going to print these few words from a cousin
whose name and interesting letters are well-known
to many of us:

"The pretty and useful monogram is received. Please accept my sincere thanks for the same. It is entirely satisfactory. Comfort is an excellent little paper and I would not be without it for the world. As soon as I read my copy I send it away to some one, and in two years I have sent a great many packages of Comfort to persons in different parts of the country. Very respectfully yours,

As soon as I read my copy I send it away to some one, and in two years I have sent a great many packages of Comport to persons in different parts of the country. Very respectfully yours,

LOLA BELLE ROATH.

We have received information, I am very sorry to be obliged to state, which accuses certain Cousins of plagiarism. In regard to one letter, published in a recent number, a cousin writes:

"I read exactly the same thing several years ago, and again within a few months in the variety column of a newspaper. I recognize many phrases, and, at least, two complete sentences, so am pretty sure he must have copied the article almost word for word, if not quite. I am positive I am right, or should not have written this to you. Hadn't you better speak on the subject the next time you talk to us? Perhaps he did not know he was disobeying rules, and others may follow in his footsteps (and win prizes too) thinking things are all right."

Certainly, I will speak of it. I hope the writer referred to erred only through ignorance; although it joes seem as if everybody ought to feel that it is unfair to send in anything which is not original. I am sure most of the cousins are perfectly honest and would not do a mean thing. This competition is meant to draw out your own best work, and if any one should copy from others what he could not do himself, and win a monogram over honest competitors, it would not be right.

There are not many Vanderbilts in the world; but although we cannot all live in splendor, we like once in a while to read about the princely estates of those who can. Cornelius Vanderbilt ett many millions of dollars, ann several children. The youngest of these is George, who is mentioned below:

"These grand mountains of North Carolina are chiefly celebrated as health and pleasure resorts and they bid fair to rival the famous Catskills of New York. George Vanderbilt has bought up several houses set upon it, from which he is serving rirond connects the Vanderbilt, one of the finest residences in the world. The top of

quite impossible to do more than give extracts from most of them. Read this about the Tarantula of the Pacific Coast, described by one who has lived there:

most of them. Read this about the Tarantula of the Pacific Coast, described by one who has lived there:

"It is a huge black, sometimes dark brown spider, whose bite is as fatal as that of a rattlesnake. As one walks along where the soil is light or sandy he will notice a hole, as though made by thrusting a cane or umbrella into the dirt. On digging down a few inches, one finds the little house in which the tarantula lives. It is made of adobe, a heavy black soil, like clay, found in the low sections; and is just the shape and about the same size of a red banana, except that one end is flat. On it is a cover with a hinge made of tough cobweb material, forming a complete trap door. All insects have their enemies; and the enemy of the tarantula is a little red wasp, whose sting is sured death to this mammoth spider, and who is ever on his trail, so to speak. If the tarantula detects the approach of the wasp, he gets down the hole and into his house at a lively pace closing the trap door behind him, and is safe; while the wasp goes on his journey seeking a less vigilant victim."

W. B. Warrinker, Springfield, Mass.

The letter from which the following is taken is too long, and goes too much into details which are not of

The letter from which the following is taken is too long, and goes too much into details which are not of much consequence. But now that oranges are so plentiful and so good, I am sure that you will like this term.

plentiful and so good, I am sure that you will like this item:

"The orange is a beautiful evergreen tree and in the month of February and early spring is covered with lovely white blossoms. The fruit ripens in the latter part of Fall and continues to ripen until the first of January. If the fruit is not gathered it will remain on the tree for months and in the southern part of Florida the oranges remain on the tree all the part of Florida the oranges remain on the tree all the year."

Z. ELLIOTT, New Troy, Fla.

Now is there room, I wonder to include part of a very racy story from a Maine Cousin who caught and tamed a scal? He had gone out in a fishing smack with several others for "Rock Cod." When they wore off "Crampton's Rock" three miles off the coast, he got a bite that almost hauled him over the rail. The Captain declared it was a shark. Anyway it was something so heavy that it took two of them to bring it to the surface. To their surprise it was a seal! Then came the question how they should get him into the boat without killing him. The rest of the story is told in his own language:

"I have it," said Jed, "let's take the dip-net."

"Good," said Bijah, "its just the thing."

He sprang across the slimy, slips."

He sprang across the slimy, slips.

"Good," said Bijah, "itis just the thing,"
He sprang across the slimy, slippery deck. Here, his feet flew from under him—and he landed on his head.
"Oh," he muttered, as he rose to his feet, "it's pretty slippery."
"Yes, it appears so," said Jed with a smile.
The dip net was an "effect" need.

"Yes, it appears so," said Jed with a smile.

The dip-net was an "affair" used to dip herring out of the weir and capable of holding over five bushels; the iron ring was about ten feet in circumference. It was just the thing to capture the seal. After three or four trials Capt. Bijah succeeded, and it was placed over and under the floundering animal. He was as good as caught.

"Now," exclaimed Bijah, "you two get in the dory and haul aside the creeter."

We did as ordered and were soon beside the seal.

"Catch hold of the ring—and into the boat with the rascal before he tears the net in pieces," was the hurried command.

We caught hold of the ring which supported the net and began to haul; suddenly Jed gave a cry of pain, The seal had seized one of his fingers and bitten it quite severely. We caught hold of the net again, and this time succeeded in getting the creature into the dory.

"All's well that ends well," said Jed, as he gazed at his bleeding finger.

After many efforts we disentangled the net from the seal. I now had a good opportunity to examine him. Capt. Bijah pronounced him a baby seal, about four months old. He weighed fifty pounds. Arriving at home I immediately set to work and made a large tank in which to keep my strange catch. The tank was forty by twenty feet, and large enough to accommodate him well. And in this tank after five years. of peaseless, hadding, i.e., have succeeded in most impossible for anything less than a circus monkey to perform. The reader may think this a very fishy story—perhaps it is—but mind you it is the truth."

MARK STEVENS, Jonesport, Maine.

In conclusion I want to urge all our members not only to strive for the prizes in this department, but to join the new Prize Purzle Club.

truth." Mark Stevens, Jonesport, Maine.
In conclusion I want to urge all our members not only to strive for the prizes in this department, but to join the new Prize Puzzle Club also. That corner will give an excellent chance to tax your wits and ingenuity. Is there a cousin anywhere who cannot obtain—no matter how out-of-the-way his corner of the earth may be—the little club of four subscribers which is necessary to make you a member of the Prize Puzzle Club?

Read over their conditions carefully, and note them all. So many departments in Comfort now offer cash prizes that many of you, I hope, will be successful competitors.

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Dyspepsia and Chronic Nervous diseases. Dr. Shoop's Restorative, the great Nerve Tonic, through a newly discovered principle, cures stomach, liver and kidney diseases, by its action upon the nerves that govern these organs. Book and samples free for 2 ct. stamp. Address Box A.

A Swedish bride distributes bread among the chil-dren who assemble to see her on her way to be mar-ried in church. As many bites as are taken from the bread, so many blows of misfortune are warded from her.

Mrs. Ellsworth Miller of Cold Spring, Ia., has just had her third set of triplets. She was married only nine years ago, and is but 31 years old; but she has had seventeen children. Besides the three sets of triplets, she had three pairs of twins and two single births. May she live long and have quartets and sextets!



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those of one and the same ful changes are made entaches, beards, goatees, vate Theatricals, Amateur rades, Tableaux, Parlor they are simply immensel fected in a few seconds.

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Every Shut-In who will get up a club of five or more yearly subscribers for COMFORT at twenty-five cents apiece, may send us ten cents for each subscriber, and keep the other fifteen for herself.

The only condition given is that you must furniss misisfactory proof that you are a Shut-In. Get your physician and clergyman, or two other responsible persons, to sign a statement saying they have known you (and how long), that you are an invalid, unable to work, and that you properly belong to the Shut-In Circle.

io work, and that you properly belong to the Shut-In Circle.

No club will be received of less than five subscribers, and these must all be sent at one time, tegether with the amount necessary for the club.

Money may be sent by money-order, postal-note, check, draft, registered-letter, or in postage stamps. Never send money loose in a letter.

Try among your friends, neighbors and relatives. Your children at school or in factories, or your servant-girls among their friends can bring you names of new subscribers. Take it up seriously, as a matter of business, and you will succeed.

All correspondence for this department should be directed to Sunshine Circle, care of Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

EAR FRIENDS:

I wish first of all to call your attention to the suggestive and beautifully appropriate heading which our artist has designed for the SUNSHINE CIRCLE. What more delightful than the rays of the sun which dispel the darkness, and carry with their cheering beams life and joy?

You will observe that each month is represented by certain signs, which are supposed to denote the annual path of the sun through the stars. In the grand old cathedral at Cologne in one of the windows these signs of the zodiac are pictured, each one with its attendant angel.

Let us take this thought, then, from our beautiful heading: Every month may have its clouds, but over all the sun is ever shining, and over every trial awaits an angel of light ready to bless us with his presence if we open wide the doors and windows of our hearts and let

"But all God's angels come to us disguised; Sorrow and sickness, poverty and death, One after other lift their frowning masks, And we behold the seraph's face beneath."

As I read your letters I cannot tell you how much my heart goes out to you in love and sympathy. There are many things I should like to say to you, but I wish to give as much space as possible to your letters. This is really the medium through which you can become acquainted with each other. I introduce you, and then leave you to entertain each other, and give through personal correspondence words of comfort and good cheer. There is no surer way of helping yourself than by helping others. I believe no word, no act of kindness is ever lost, but that it will surely return to its giver with interest some day.

I am very much interested in the really generous offer which the publishers of COMFORT have made you, for I should think by its means every one of you might earn some money. Surely, any of your relatives or friends will be glad to aid you, and as every subscriber you get to Confort means fifteen cents to you, you may be able to get together a good little sum. But you must remember not to send less than five names at one time, and to send the money. ten cents for each name, by postage stamps, postal order, check, or registered letter to insure its safety.

It is now quite the fashion for women to belong to clubs. I know women who belong to half a dozen different ones. Perhaps you who are prevented by ill health from joining these

First of all you belong to the Sunshine Circle
—a delightful club through which you can have
much social intercourse without stirring from
your room. Next, you may, if you choose, join
the Busy Bees of Comport, in which circle \$100
in cash prizes are offered, and you who have
skilful fingers may come in for a share of that
prize. Again, there is the Prize Puzzle Club.
Turn to that page and see if you do not think it
might help you to pass away some weary hours
if you became interested in solving the very entertaining puzzles you will find there. Perhaps
you never tried to get out a puzzle, and think
you cannot do it, but if you read carefully the
directions given in this number, and study over
it a little, you will be surprised to find how
soon you can learn, and how interested you
will become.

directions given in this number, and study over it a little, you will be surprised to find how soon you can learn, and how interested you will become.

I cannot take up the valuable space we want for letters in telling you the conditions for joining these clubs, or the prizes you will have a chance to win, but I do earnestly recommend you to read for yourself and join, if possible, both these clubs, as I am sure you will find yourself a gainer by it in some way.

Now I will give you a few extracts from the many interesting letters which I have received.

W. H. WILLOME. Inswich. Mass. Box 26. writes.

Want to extend through the columns of Comport an invitation for all of you who wish letters from Christian friends to write to me. I can agree to answer all letters sent me promptly. In this work I shall have the aid of one or two Christian sisters. My sympathy and prayers are with you all, and I am praying that the Master may use me to bring a little light to some suffering one."

Some suffering one."

C. Sloan, Gallatin, Mo., writes:

"I have been a Shut-In for two years, and have been confined to the bed most of the time. I am fourteen years old. Some kind friend is sending me Comport, for which I am very thankful. I have had numerous papers from other cities, but in my opinion Comport outstrips them all. Many of my boy friends come in and ask me, 'Don't you get awful tired lying down all the time?' Certainly, I wish I could get out in the pure air and have a good time, but, thinks I, it is not the Lord's will, for some reason or other, that I should be well, and then I drop the matter. I get tired sometimes, but then I can do lots to pass off time. I can paint, sew and read, and do many things I would not do if I was well. Dear sisters, if any of you have any old books or papers you do not want please send them to me and I will gladly pay postage on them."

I think all the Shut-Ins will be glad to well.

please send them to me and I will gladly pay postage on them."

I think all the Shut-Ins will be glad to welcome this dear boy, who is evidently bearing his trials so bravely, into the SUNSHINE CIRCLE; and I trust he will be remembered in his request for books. It is beautiful to take sickness in such a spirit as his letter manifests.

ELIHU WALDREP, Moscow, Polk Co., Texas, writes: "Is there room for one more suffering invalid to join your number? I have been paralyzed for nearly four years, and have not walked a step even with crutches, but my younger brother hauls me in a little wagon. I am twelve years old. I have not been to school but three months since I have been paralyzed, but my sisters teach me at home. My sister takes Comfort and reads it to me, and I enjoy it very much. I should like to correspond with any of the Shut-Ins. I would be glad of reading, or anything ornamental."

Would it not be pleasant for these two last writers to correspond together. The Sunshine Circle will be glad to be the means of sending some added rays of light into these young lives so early clouded with sorrow.

young lives so early clouded with sorrow.

Thomas Bunten, Stump Knob, Johnson Co., Tenn., writes:

"I thank you once more for the kind interest you have taken in me. I have received nearly a cart-load of reading matter, nearly all religious literature. Now, dear Cousins, we Shut-Ins are ever seeking for something to amuse our minds, and we often find it in something quite different from a sermon. A poor sufferer never comes nearer forgetting his pains than when indulging in a hearty laugh. I received from different friends hundreds of copies of papers all of the same issue. Don't think I am ungrateful, but really the stamps that mailed those papers would have paid for many books or papers that would have cheered the sad and gloomy heart of your Shut-In friend."

I have given this letter in full because I think

I have given this letter in full because I think it is needed. It is well for us to be reminded that invalids need diversion and amusement even more than they who are able to mix with the outside world.

ANNA MCMANIS, Rushville, Indiana, Box 309.

writes:
"I received a copy of Comfort this winter and was at once attracted to the department for Shut-Ins. I have been a Shut-In for many weary years. Oh, how I have suffered! But I see I am not alone in my suffering, and with deep sympathy my heart goes out to all these suffering ones. I would like letters or papers, or anything that would make the time pass pleasantly. Hope I will hear from some of the readers of Comfort soon. Let us ask the Lord to bless us and give us patience to bear this to bless us and give us patience to bear this weary life."

AMANDA DECKER, Latham, Pike Co., Ohio, writes:
"It is now more than eight years since I lost

whalf a dozen different ones. Perhaps you who half a dozen different ones. Perhaps you who are prevented by ill health from joining these social circles sometimes feel a pang of envy, but did you never think there is a chance even for you to enroll yourselves as club members? Look over the pages of Comfort and see what you find there.

First of all you belong to the Sunshine Circle—a delightful club through which you can have much social intercourse without stirring from your room. Next, you may, if you choose, join the Busy Bees of Comfort, in which circle \$100 in cash prizes are offered, and you who have skilful fingers may come in for a share of that prize. Again, there is the Prize Puzzle Clue. Turn to that page and see if you do not think it might help you to pass away some weary hours if you became interested in solving the very entertaining puzzles you will find there. Perhaps you never tried to get out a puzzle, and think you cannot do it, but if you read carefully the directions given in this number, and study over it a little, you will be surprised to find how soon you can learn, and how interested you won the prize of some interested to get out a puzzle, and think you cannot do it, but if you read carefully the directions given in this number, and study over it a little, you will be surprised to find how soon you can learn, and how interested you

me?"

This beautiful letter reminds me of some good words by a German writer, which I will quote: "It is not for me who am ignorant and blind to prescribe what measure of health is fit for me. If I cannot extend the sphere of my activity I will, at least, endeavor by Thy grace not to neglect anything by which I can be useful. Far from me be all impatience and peevishness. I will endeavor to lessen the cares of my friends for me, and express to them my gratitude for all the concern they show me.

zeal of which I am capable. Though weak, I am not entirely destitute of strength; and in the exertion of my remaining strength I shall not be wholly useless."

Mrs. D. Rose, Hamilton, New York, Box 126,

Mrs. D. Rose, Hamilton, New York, Box 126, writes:

"I have been an interested reader of Comfort for nearly a year and think very highly of it, especially the column devoted to Shut-Ins, which has helped many of us invalids to pass hours that otherwise would be very dreary. It seems a way opened to make new and true friends. I hope it will long be continued. I have a stamping pattern of Mrs. Cleveland's head, 8 1-2 by 6 1-2 which I would be pleased to send to any Shut-In who will send four cents for postage. I have many other patterns if they wish them. I have been an entire Shut-In for a year, and I suffer very much from fear of death. Are any of the others thus troubled? I wish to get an honest girl to come and live with me to do our work; one that would appreciate a good home and kindness. Any one wishing to know particulars please write."

I will say for the consolation of this sufferer,

wishing to know particulars please write."

I will say for the consolation of this sufferer, that I have known of three devoted Christian women who had the same dread of death, and who each when her time came, departed in peace. A hospital nurse once told me that it had been a great consolation to her to see how easily most of the patients met the "King of Terrors." If, however, the dread is of the unknown future, let me offer these lines for thought:
"To die? it is to rise
To fairer, brighter skies.

"To die? it is to rise
To fairer, brighters kies,
Where death no more shall his dread harvest
reap;
To soar on angel wings
Where life immortal springs,
For so He giveth His beloved sleep."

Mrs. L. A. M. and Desdimonia. Fastland Co.

Mrs. L. A. Martin, Desdimonia, Eastland Co., Texas, writes thanking the kind readers of Comfort for their many sympathetic letters, silk scraps, and reading matter. She would most gladly have granted each request for lace or knitting but has been very ill.

Bertha Zoeller, 1937 W. Market St., Louisville, Ky., is a Shut-In of 27 years. Would like scraps of any kind, letters, or reading matter.

MARY W. PATTEN, Forest, Clinton Co., N. Y., would like reading matter or letters.

would like reading matter or letters.

NINA HYER, Rockdale, N. Y., Box 54, would like a block ten inches square in crazy work for her "Comfort" quilt made of cotton goods, or a worsted piece three inches square for a slumber robe; has been an invalid twenty years.

Cousin Wee Wee has sent reading matter to one of the Shut-Ins in whom she was interested, and learned afterward the address was not given correctly. Will the Shut-Ins be very particular to give correct address, clearly written.

Mrs. H. W. Brown, Kinde, Huron Co., Mich. Box 11, thanks the friends who remembered her at Christmas. She is better, but not able to sit up much.

F. O. CALDWELL, Washington, Kansas, Box 172,

P. O. Caldwell, Washington, Ransas, Doc and writes:
"I have been doing a little missionary work among Shut-Ins, and am willing to treat two of the Shut-Ins in each State gratis; that is, I will furnish the medicine and advice, and deliver both to the patient free of charge. Those accepting this offer will please give me a history of their case. I must, however, be at liberty to withdraw this offer when it becomes too much of a drain upon my time and purse."

And now we must leave some letters over for

of a drain upon my time and purse."

And now we must leave some letters over for nother time. Please do not be discouraged if your letters are not always printed, but continue to write and your turn will come in time. Take this thought for the coming month:
"Art thou low and sick and dreary, Is thy spirit worn and weary
With its fight against the ills of life that seem to fill the air?
Gird thy loins once more and try—The stout heart wins the victory,
But never, dark despair."

And, remember, you have always the sympathy of Sister Margaret.

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A VALUABLE SECRET.

No woman, married or single, should neglect to send to The Tokene Company, 232 Devonshire Street, Boston, Mass., for a copy of the Tokene Bookelt, issued for free presentation exclusively to women. Aside from being the most artistic pamphlet ever gotten up in America—its cover is lithographed in no less than twelve colors—it treats in a straightforward, common-sense manner, of an entirely new discovery which cannot but prove a boon to the sex. It has absolutely nothing in common with patent medicines or novelty schemes, and the woman who fails to read it misses a secret which may bring her boundless happiness, and even save her life.

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THIS is a very useful device (made of brass) for adjusting on the top of an ordinary lamp chimney, for cooking purposes. It is readily adjustable to any chimney. It will readily support any ordinary metal plate, or pan, or dipper, in which to do the boiling or cooking. For many purposes this Lamp Chimney Stove is far superior and a thousand times more convenient than an expensive oil or vapor stove. For the Diving Room in Summer, shops and offices, it is unsurpassed. For the Sick Room it is indispensable. And Only Look at the Price,

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ART in needle-work is on the ad-vance. We know the ladies delight in odd pieces of silk and satin, "CRAZY QUILT" making is VERY POPULAB. We are sure we have a

its, etc., and we can help you out now. We are pose of this immense lot HIGHT OFF. Our packs of the best of the left of the left of the left of the left of the want to get a lot introduced into every home order as you like for your friends, and MAE Mag our work and helping yourself also. Remem our work and helping yourself also. Remem the left of the l COMFORT PUB. CO., Bez 120, Augusta, Male

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19 Great Sleight of hand Tricks. 39 Money-Making Secrets, Collection of Cooking Receipts, Totlet Secrets, how to become beautiful, Medical Advast: How to tiet Bieh. Costly Secrets (one of which cost us \$100). Telegraph Code, Cleveland Puzzle, Secrets for Lovers, how to win and woo, including flutations, Magic Number Mystery, Seven Wonders of the World, 10 New Games, map of U. S., Minstrel Jokes, 25 Portraits of noted beauties and pretty girls (French and English), a thrilling story, "The Parkville Ghost," 7 Wonderful Experiments, Schedule of Noted Historical Events. Dreams, how to tell what they may all Dumb Alphabet, Lost Pathway Puzzle, Star Puzzle, Great Triple Prize Acrostic, Four Great Rebuses, Story of "Peck's Bad Boy and his Pa." all about a kins, and collection of jokes for Jolly People. Game of Authors, 35 cards with full directions, Set of Dominoes, in compact and handy form, Chess Board, with men, Fox and Geese Board, with men, Nine Men Morris Board, with men, Checker Board, with men, Fox and Geese Board, with men, Nine Men Morris Board, with men, Mystic Age Tablet, to tell the age of any person, young or old, married or single, Real Secret is worth one hundred dollars, The Beautiful Language of Flowers, arranged in alphabetical order, Morse Telegraph Alphabet, complete. The Improve Game of Foretine, for ladies and gentlemen, amuses old and young. The Album Writer's Friend, 375 select Autograph Album Veryonath, but to become a medium, a pleasing game when well played. Game of Foretine, for ladies and gentlemen, amuses old and young. The Album Writer's Friend, 375 select Autograph Album Veryonath, but to become a medium, a pleasin

DOCTORS DUMFOUNDED.

A GREATER DISCOVERY THAN ELECTRICITY.

As it by Magic it Restores Hopeless, Bedridden Sufferers. Endorsed by Board of Health.

"Worth Ten Thousand Dollars a Box."

From San Bernardino, California.

Mr M Logsdon of this place has taken the agency for the sale of a most wonderful new discovery the use of which by many of our well known citizens has caused them to doubt

the days of miracles are over. So astonishing have been its effects in restoring helpless tedridden invalids who have been given up by octors as incurable, to perfect health and igor that it has been pronounced a greater tiscovery than electricity Among these people are A. J Felter the attorney at law, ex-judge A D Boran John T. Knox justice of the peace Mrs J C Carter. T W. McIntosh, Mrs. J. G. Sloan L E. Beckley, and a host of others.

The article in question is called Oxien, and is the discovery and sole property of the Giant Oxic Company of Augusta Maine. Every man of brominence of that city, including mayor postmaster city physician, bank officials, and heads of the municipal government has publicly endorsed it as being all that its owners claim for it

Analysis and public test show that this discevery differs from anything and everything heretofore placed upon the market. While it is neither a stimulant tonic or medicine, it accomplishes what all these are recommended for out so seldom achieve

Judging from its marvellous effects, it appears to be the only real nerve blood, and brain food and agent for imparting new vital power that has yet been discovered. In case after case where the efforts of the best physicians and the use of remeales heretofore relied upon, nave tailed utterly this wonderful discovery has given quick reliet and permanent cure Surrounded by such evidences of its genuine worth and its unequalied power to combat and overcome the gravest complications as well as the tesser itls from which they spring, and which humanity is so prone to neglect at the ontset, this discovery holds out hope to every sufferer From the mouths of thankful, willins witnesses, proof is daily received of its matchless health-giving, strength renewing qualities

THE TRUTH PHOTOGRAPHED.

Here are a tew facts and faces which tell how greatest of all fortunes-health-was secured by the investment of a dollar. Over one hundred and sixty thousand similar cases are on file in the offices of the Giant Oxic Company, and open to public inspection.

Physicians insist that Bright's Disease is in-

curable yet Mr. John T. Knox, the well-known justice of the peace says: "Oxien has com-

pletely cured me of Bright's Disease and nervous troubles. I am better now than I have been for ten years; perfectly well, stout and

Consumption is another of the diseases which is looked upon by all as being fatal. Yet Josiah Van Loan says that after vainly trying a great many doctors he at Home where he grew stead

last went to the Soldiers' MR. JOHN T. KNOX ily worse until the surgeon said he would not

live two weeks He came home to San Bernard ino to die. In describing his miraculous recovery he says "Mr Logsdon neard of me, hunted me up and persuaded me to try Oxien.

1 began to improve right away Yesterday I walked to town and I feet like a new man. Oxiep saved me from a consumptive's grave."

A)ta 1 Bowen : uffered terribly for many years with that mysterious malady of the nerves. neuralgia "I had tried doctors and patent

medicines, getting no rehet " she says "Oxien was recommended to me and I thought I would give it a Although I have taken but a small quantity -two Giant boxes in all-I must say it has given me

About three years ago I was seized with an attack of La Grippe," writes H M. Wallace, "from the de-

bilitating effects of which I have suffered ever since, having a severe cough, pains in the head, back, and limbs, also nervous prostration. After taking three boxes

tosh Under her observaperson half-paralyzed, confined to the bed and suffering the most extreme pain, who now, by the use of Oxien, is able to rest well nights, go about, and do

For the manifold ills from which women suffer, its value is no less pronounced. MRS. T. W. MCINTOSH. From Mrs. George Easton

come words of the strongest praise. "My two daughters, myself, and also my sister, as well as many others in town have used the Giant Nerve Food, Oxien. It is the best medicine for ladies and girls I ever saw, giving ease, strength, and comfort; just building them up."

And from Miss Rosa Velasquez the following: "For thirteen years I suffered with catarrh, but tried this Wonderful Food for the Nerves, and to my great joy am now perfectly well."

The attorney at law, A. J. Felter, Esq., says that after using but one box of Oxien he found great relief from kidney trouble, from which he had been a sufferer for several years, and



Mrs. M. L. Armentrout writes to the discoverers of this remedy: "Three years ago a high trestle fell on my little boy, injuring his spine. A large abscess formed, and one leg was also affected. Doctors gave him no relief, merely placing him in plas-ter of Paris jackets and giving him opiates. One day his grandmother gave him

A. J. FELTER, ESQ. Oxien. He rapidly grew better, slept soundly nights, his leg and back mended, and in one month's time he was a stout, healthy boy, running about the place. Oxien did it."

Mr. Logsdon himself first had his attention called to the wonderful curative powers of Oxien by the results it achieved in his own case, building up his constitution after severe

prolonged attacks of the Grippe, for which doctors had failed to afford any relief. The marvellous success which followed its use by other members of his family led to his recommending it to every sufferer that he could reach, and the joy and thanksgiving that has gone with it to every invalid and every home well justifies his statement that MR. M. LOGSDON the worth of Oxien is "ten



thousand dollars a box." Yet it is sold at the very reasonable price of a doltar for a Giant box, or a smaller trial size, at thirty-five cents. While the remedy is within the reach of all, its results render it a priceless boon to the suffer

From its effects right in our own community it is not too much to say that Oxien brings to the weak, weary, and infirm, the vigor of youth, and banishes suffering as if by magic.

We are pleased to announce that for the next 30 days the Giant Oxie Co., will send free prepaid samples of Oxien to all who desire to give it a trial.

FROM POVERTY TO RICHES.

One agent says: "In half an hour I have sold tendollars' worth (or at the rate of thirty thousand dollars a year profit) and still they are coming for it The Oxien Electric Porous Plasters are doing wonders.

The Oxien Electric Porous Plasters are doing wonders here."

Not a day passes but what scores of letters like the foregoing reach us from grateful men and women whose lives have been saved by our Wonderful Food for the Nerves, Oxien.

Every hour brings fresh proof that Oxien is the Food which Scientists have searched for; the Medicine which hoctors have longed for; and the Relief which hopeless sufferers have prayed for. It gives new life, new hope, new power, new vigor, new strength, new happiness.

It is a Godsend for the weak and weary; and a Godsend to thousands of Home Workers who are making fortunes introducing it to their friends and neighbors. Write at once for free samples and terms to agents and secure your territory.

Minute. (

If you will hand to three friends or neighbors the new booklets whi will mail you FREE, we will send advance a 50 cent cash certificat FACTS which will help you, you son, or daughter, to easily obtain part of the TWO HUNDRED AND TIFTY THOUS-AND DOLLARS we are giving away this year in premiums. Write us at once for free sample and facts about our Won-derful Discovery, and for our references.

GIANT OXIE CO., 124 Willow St., Augusta, Me.

WORLD'S FAIR ITEMS.

All sorts of military trappings and paraphernalia of war will be exhibited in the Governmental department. Papier-mache figures, drossed to represent every rank of the United States soldier from 1776 down to '93, will also be shown.

The famous butter statue of the Centennial is to be rivalled this year by a group of three cows and a calf, done in corn, and corn husks. A red cow is done in corn-cobs. A white one is made of husks, and a brindle one and calf are made of nillet heads.

A genuine Creole kitchen is being planned by Louisiana women for their State building. In it they will show many styles of Southern cookery, among the rest, what can be done with okra. The room will be presided over by pretty young women.

The women of Germany have entered into the spirit of the Exposition with wonderful zeal. The Empress and nearly all the feminine members of her family are preparing articles for it. The work of German women will be shown, so far as possible, in the German building.

ing.

Only two out of twenty-five British ship builders will be represented in the marine exhibits section, which is in charge of Lieut. A. C. Baker, United States Navy. The entire exhibit will show in miniature practically every type of vessel built for pleasure, commerce or war, including the best ships of all the great naval powers of Europe. They will afford a good comparison between American and foreign navies.

navies.

Montana is to furnish one of the horrors of the Fair. It is a deck of cards, made from human skin and captured with Geronimo, the Apache chief, who terrorized Arizona and New Mexico several years ago. The deck is complete with the exception of the eight, nine and ten spot cards. All the designs are copied from regular cards and are painted in crude colors. The owner of these grewsome relies is Capt. Charles G. Ayres, of the 10th U. S. Cavalry, who captured them himself.

The Boston Navy-yard is to send a novel con-tribution. This consists of eleven models of United States men-of-war, built upon a scale of

one-quarter inch to one foot. First of these is that of the Bancroft, a cruiser for cadet practice; Miantonomoh, a monitor; Yorktown, a gunboat; Petrel, a gunboat; Maine, an armored cruiser; Monterey, a coast-defense monitor; Baltimore, a cruiser; Yesuvius, the new dynamite cruiser; Newark, a cruiser; New York, a cruiser, and the Kearsarge, the old revolutionary battleship. The models are built of wood and white metal and encased in glass. Every part is made with extreme nicety, and in exact proportion. They range in length from six to ten feet and cost more than \$5,000.



\$10 Single Harness...\$3.50
\$28 Team Harness...\$1.50
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ED and shipped anywhere to anywe are headquarters for Buggies, Carts, Phaetons. Express Wagons, Harness, Saddles. etc.

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To agents to handle the Patent Chemical Ink Erasing Pencil. The most useful and novel invention of the age. Erases ink thoroughly in two seconds. Works like magic. 200 to 500 per cent. profit. Agents making \$50 per week. We also want a general agent to take charge of territory, and appoint sub agents. A rare chance to make money. Write for terms and specimen of erasing. Monroe Eraser Mfg Co, X 87 La Crosse, Wis.





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We manufacture the celebrated musical box and clock combined, arranged to play different tunes every time clock strikes, or can be used independent of clock, same as an ordinary music box.

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There are Thousands of coins in circulation Ands of coins in circulation which can be sold at high premiums to coin dealers. For instance, rare 1855 quarters or half-dollars are worth from 83 to 225 each; rare 1856 or 1891 cents

prising person. To introduce our spiendid household mountainly magazine, "The American Nation," we will send it six months, also a World's Fair Coin and Stamp Book, for only 25 cents, stamps, silver, or postal-one. V. H. Rate & Co., Box V 1729, Boston, Hass,

\$300 to be paid for distributing circulars in your county by our big advertisers. HUSTLERS enclose stamp for above work. ADVERTI-ERS BUREAU, 08 BEOADWAY, NEW YORK

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CATAPULT OR POCKET GUN.

So the idea is old but a perfect modern sling at this price has not been made before. This

has great force and strength. Made of a solid piece of rubber, with cup to hold the projectile. Requires no powder, no caps; is neatly finished, durable, and can be carried in the pocket, as it weighs only three ounces. Will shoot shot or bullets with accuracy and force, and with a little practice will kill birds on the wing or bring down a squirrel from the highest tree. It is the best thing out for taxidermists, as it will kill without spoiling game and makes no report. A boy can have more genuline pleasure in a day with a Catapult than with anything else made. The loop, strap, pocket and pulling tip are all moulded in one solid piece of the best kind of rubber. Enclose 15 cents for a three months subscription to "Comfort" and we send one free, postpaid. Boys make money selling them. One dozen sent for \$1.00. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

EUREKA COIN HOLDER.



It holds over \$5 of silver coin in half dollars, quarters, dimes and nickles. Small, compact and convenient. It will last for a lifetime. A person using one of these coin in a compact shape. He can make change in one-half the time usually required, and avoid all liability of dropping or losing it. The merest movement of your thumb and finger pushes the desired coin into your hand, and another one of the same denomiation immediately takes its place. You can readily make change in winter without removing your gloves. The box is small and portable, the coins being arranged in the most compact manner possible, no superfluous space being wasted. Simple in its construction, and warranted never to get out of order The above cut is about one-fourth size. It is made from strong metal, highly polished, and possesses every essential quality of a good pocket Coin Holder. Price 15 cents; two for 25 cents, by mail, postpa.d. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A FORTUNE IN POULTRY.

More money has been made and lost in Poultry than any other home industry. Thousands of dollars can be realized at home easily by the women and children if you start and act right. Our common sense Standard Poultry Book gives

Poultry Book gives all the new valuable ideas about money making in Poultry farming; the enormous profit; how to build sensible but cheap houses, how to start and stock them. All about marketing eggs, chickens and poultry. The secrets of successful manager now given to the world. Our wonderful book treats of every known kind of poultry and fowl, and their habits and diseases. As it contains over 123 and is handsome and



The Champion Fisherman's Outfit.

To every one who likes to fish, either for sport, for the family or for the market, we will send this Fisherman's Outfit free, postage paid, if he will get up a club of four subscribers for "Comfort" at 25 cents each per year, in advance. Those who don't care to give an hour or two for getting up a club, can have the outfit for fifty cents cash. cash. Here it is, complete, nicely packed

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No. 1. One Good Size Fine
Polished Brass Reel. Will wind
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alely land the heaviest trout, or fish of equal size.
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ine will land the biggest fish caught with bait and
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line will land the biggest fish caught with bait and sinker, or trolling from boat.

No. 4. One Long Cotton Line. Good for everyday fishing, after perch, cattish, sunfish, rock bass, etc. No. 5. One Strong Line. Complete, with hook, bob and sinker. This is a whole outfit in itself, comprising a long stout line with medium size hook attached, and neat movable bob and sinker. With bait at hand and this line in his pocket the fisherman car start right in and try his luck.

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No. 7. Two Imported Trout Flies. They will draw trout from deep pools when other flies fall. They are natural. brilliant in colors, strongly fastened around the hooks.

No. 8. One Improved Bass Fly. For black base

No. 8. One Improved Bass Fly, For black bass shing, and is the equal of the trout fly in excellence

fishing, and is the equal of the trout by in excension material.

No. 9. One Improved Salmon Fly. Of the best pattern, and perfect shape and color, sure to rise and catch the fish.

No. 10. Two Snell Hooks and Gut. These hooks are set on long guts, and where fish out the lines, one of these snell hooks can be safely used, the gut cannot be severed, and lands the fish every time.

These artificial fies and snells alone are worth the amount asked for the entire outfit.

Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



extreme nervousness, amounting almost to of Oxien every trace of the alarming symptoms Another who loudly sounds the praises of Oxien is Mrs. T. W. McIntion has come the case of a



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DAME FASHION.

cause it is the Columbian year, styles in dress, in house-furnishing, in art, and in everything, are distinctively of the kind collectively known as Empire. Not since 1830 have we had the fashions of Marie Antoinette and her predecessors served up in quite so marked degree. Picturesqueness in effect is generally aimed for; although it must be admitted that in some cases this is carried to a degree which becomes ridiculous. Take, for instance, one new jacket that is placed on the market by manufacturers who are anxious to distinguish themselves for novelty. It has a body cut in one piece exactly like a circular cape. Holes are cut for the armseye, and huge puffed sleeves are inserted. A full collar is sewed on, and one front corner is worn fastened to the opposite shoulder. It is a queer looking garment at best, and when worn by a short, stout woman, becomes positively hide-

woman, becomes positively hide-

woman, becomes positively hide-ous!
Such ultra styles, however, are not to be commended to Comme

embroidered over net, with the work "cut sway." Then there are simple, rich simple, rich looking velvet capes, made up plainly and, therefore, quite in ex-pensive. The prettiest and newest of all, however, is



tyles of cape-collars The question of full skirts is still agitating side.

the public mind. The close bell-skirt of last year has disappeared but in its place we have not, as yet, hoops. What we do have is a variety of styles, all following a general rule; a little fullness across the front and hips, more in the back, gathered, not plaited in; and a flaring effect at the bottom. Some are made with several gores, some are made in circular shape, some have a bias seam in front and others in the back; but all have the same effect, prescribed as necessary by Dame Fashion.

They are much fuller, also, than the bell-skirt of '92, which we all relinquish with a sigh, the prescribed width now being from four and a half to six yards. Narrow ruffles confined to the bottom of the skirt are still the favorite trimming, but many rows of graduated braid or velvet ribbon are daily growing in favor, and perhaps are the forerunner of widerand deeper ruffles or double skirts. In fact, a leading dressmaker of Bostom is trimming all skirts half way up.

One of last year's sen is ible fashions we shall retain, modified to suit this year's style; and that is the skirt and jacket with avariety of blouses to go with them. The jackets will be different from last season—the new Etons and Boleros having the preference. The blouse has proved it self a popular favorite, being cool becoming, and sensible vein in her composition. Blouses are not materially different this spring from last year, the ones of simple design having a preference over more elaborate ones.

It is always well for people to remember that the most pronounced fashions are the quickest to pass away, and look the worst after they are "out." The sensible woman (and all Comport readers are sensible women) not only "cuts her garment according to her cloth" and suits it to the condition of her purse, but she contents herself with both material and cut that are not too radical. Then she is in the style while it lasts, and is not too ridiculous in the face of a newer one.

Some of the new "Empire" gowns seen on the streets in New York, remind one forci



at first gowns with glee; but on account o then fitting In. ings they are no more comfortable or healthful than the

are no more comfortable or healthful than the reg u lar "tailor- made" and while they make very pretty house dresses, they always suggest the morning wrapper on the street.

There is, perhaps, less change in the fashions of hats and bonnets than in other articles of dress this spring. We cannot wear last year's dresses without looking decidedly old-fashioned, but many of last year's hats will do very well this summer, with a little freshening up. Of course there are new shapes and odd looking ones; but those bonnets which, last summer, were not of any extreme style, are repeated with only slight modifications this year. Very much depends upon the owner's skill and taste. A young woman went to a New York opening this spring and saw a "perfect love" which was marked \$25. She had exactly \$5.00 in her pocket, but no other bonnet. It was a simple straw; small, round and compact in shape. Close to the edge, over a binding of moss-green velvet, was a band of blue for get-me-nots. Above this was twisted a roll of moss-green velvet with the two ends standing erect in a rabbit's-ear bow at the left front. The crown was thickly covered with forget-me-nots and a few peeped out among the folds of the big bow.

"I will make one myself," said this bright girl. "I know I can get up one like that for five dollars." So she went out and bought the

few peeped out among the folds of the big bow.
"I will make one myself," said this bright
girl. "I know I can get up one like that for
five dollars." So she went out and bought the
plain round hat. half a yard of bias green velvet and a big bunch of forget-me-nots. She
paid \$1.00 for the first, \$1.00 for the second, and
\$21-2 cents for the third. Then she went home,
and before she forgot the slightest detail of the
Paris hat, sat down and made hers exactly like
it. The bow was the most difficult part, but she
had fixed the other one in her mind so firmly
that with a little patience she achieved the
real French air of sauciness and pertness, and
her Paris bonnet cost her \$2.821-2. This bow
is pictured in our illustrations. Everything in
the shape of head gear is finished with these
bows either directly in front or a little to one the shape of head gear is finished with these bows either directly in front or a little to one



COMFORT'S LONDON HAT.

COMFORT'S LONDON BAIL.

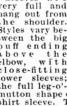
Comfort's London correspondent sends sketches of several that are exceedingly popular on the other side. There is everything in tieing a bow. Get a soft No. 16 ribbon and practice with it, studying our illustrations until you get the proper "style," and then you can give your hats and bonnets the right stamp. Some of the new hats come with a loop or two of straw standing erect at the front. These are meant to have ribbons mingled with them. Don't imagine, because you can't put \$15 or \$20 into a hat, that you cannot have a new one. Exercise your own ingenuity and skill, and follow our models and you will be surprised to find how inexpensive a thing a bonnet is after all.

all.

In a general way there are several things COMFORT readers should know relative to the styles this spring. First:

The basque, pure and simple, has disappeared, and, also, the long coat-waist. Short bodices reaching only to the waist-line are universally seen on new gowns.

universally seen on new gowns.
Sleeves are very full and hang out from the shoulder. Styles vary be-tween the big puff ending a bove the elbow, with elbow, with close-fitting



lower sleeves; A SPRING BONNET. the full leg-o'-mutton shape of 1830; and the plain bishop, or shirt sleeve. The latter will be much used on cotton dresses.

A SPRING BONNET.

cotton dresses.

Shoulder seams are much longer, and in some cases droop over the arm-socket. Waists are shorter than for several years.

Lace is much used for a garniture, the pointed bertha trimmings being a favorite.

Velvet sleeves are again fashionable, whether velvet is, or is not, used on the rest of the costume.

Velvet sieeves are again hamiliance, whence velvet is, or is not, used on the rest of the costume.

Combinations of color are very much worn, the favorite ones being moss-green and tan, cadet-blue and green, and heliotrope and blue. Less pronounced contrasts, however, are likely to best withstand the wear and tear of time.

None of the spring fashions are meant to be followed slavishly, without regard to figure or general becomingness. A prominent Boston dressmaker takes the best Paris fashion reviews, and is at least a month ahead of those who depend on New York houses alone for styles. But she says she never copies exactly any of the fashions given. She makes herself familiar with everything that comes out instead; and then she adapts the newest modes to the needs and style of her customers. This is just what Comfort readers should do. Strong, serviceable goods made up within the bounds of fashion, but not according to its extremes, will give the most satisfaction in the end. The day has gone by when the "country cousin" can be distinguished on the street by her "countrified" costume. With the excellent and practical designs given in Comfort every month, every woman in the 1,200,000 homes where it is read, may be sensibly and fashionably dressed, and look exactly as well as her city cousin.

THINGS WOMEN SHOULD KNOW.

Castor oil is the best thing known for keeping leather pliable.

Never wash new silver in soap-suds, as that will turn it white.

Eat parsley after onions, and it will effectually destroy any odor in the breath.

If camphor-gum is placed in the drawer with new silver, the latter will not tarnish.

A sound, ripe apple placed in the tin cake-box will keep the loaves from drying or crumbling. Never place a plano against an outside wall, unless you want it to gather dampness, and so be injured.

sugar and they will keep for years without "candying." Cover jellies with a fourth of an inch of pulverized

Hot alum water is one of the best insect extermina-ors known. Apply it to cracks and crevices with a

Watercress contains much sulphur and is an excel-lent tonic for the complexion and hair. Eat it raw of with salad dressing. Wash cane-seat chairs that have "sagged" in warm soap-suds. Let them dry in the open air and they will be taut as new.

A good cement for mending china is made by stir-ring plaster of Paris into a strong solution of gum-arabic and water.

Peach juice stain, and in fact most fruit stains, may be easily removed by boiling water, poured directly on the spot.

Good liquid glue may be made by dissolving an ounce of borax in a pint of water. Add two ounces of shellac and boil in a double kettle until completely dissolved.

Salted peanuts are an excellent substitute for almonds. They should be blanched in boiling water, their skins rubbed off, and then rolled in salt butter and dried in a hot oven.

Flies hate the smell of clover. Where window-screens are not used, hang great bunches of clover blossoms, and as they dry every fly will leave the room, and will not return as long as the dried clover

A dried ink spot leaves a permanent stain. If taken while fresh, however, milk will remove it. If the milk has soured, so much the better. Soak the spot for a while in the milk, then rub briskly and rinse in clear water.

A Russian moth-preventive is made by mixing an ounce of gum-camphor and one powdered red pepper, mixed with eight ounces of strong alcohol. The clothes are well sprayed with this mixture and then laid away in sheets.

French chalk finely scraped over grease-spots, will effectually remove them. Fine tissue-paper should be pinned over the chalk and the garment laid away for a few days. When taken out, shake off the chalk and carefully brush the spot.

A good rule for testing and control of the chalk and carefully brush the spot.

A good rule for testing an oven is given by a celebrated French cook. Put a piece of white paper into the oven; it it blackens or blazes up, the oven is too hot; if it turns light brown, it is fit for pastry; ilight yellow, it is right for sponge cake; if dark yellow, the oven is ready for heavy, rich cakes and for bread.

To loosen a glass stopper that will not come out, apply sweet oil or glycerine to the stopper at the point where it enters the neck of the bottle, and in an hour or so it can be removed. Another way is to wrap a stout string once about the neck, "sawing" it back and forth until sufficient heat is generated to expand the glass and release the stopper.

A new way to take out bruiese on furniture is

A new way to take out bruises on furniture is recommended; double a piece of brown butcher's wrapping-paper five or six times, and soak thoroughly in warm water. Lay this on the bruised spot and apply to it a warm, (not hot) flat-iron. Hold it there until the moisture has evaporated, when the bruise will have disappeared. In severe cases the process may have to be repeated.

Very few women know how many excellent uses common salt may be put to. As a dentifrice it has no superior. It is the best gargle, when dissolved in hot water, for a sore throat. The same solution is particularly beneficial for weak or inflamed eyes. Mixed with vinegar, it is the best thing in the world to scour tin or brass; in short, it has many uses beyond the mere flavoring or preserving of food.

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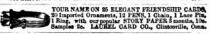
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BABES THAT NEVER CRY.

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VE was probably the only woman that never had a doll. That was one of the things she missed by being born grown

Nuremburg still turns out its dolls though they have been quite surpassed by those of other places.

In Waltenhausen, in Saxony-Coburg, there lives to-day a family by the name of Kastner, that for generations have been famous doll makers. The modern jointed doll was first made there. Fathers and sons for generations back have been devoted to the industry, and their children and their children's children now form a village of doll makers.

The best made German doll has not to-day the fascination which the more beautiful and ingenious French doll has, though the manufacture of the French doll is by no means a sextensive as that of the German. The French doll, however, can wink and open and shut its eyes, and even talk.

A dolly that can go to sleep is the height of a child's ambition.

For twenty-five years the English wax doll has had a place in the market which nothing else had just filled. The industry thrives in England and there are quite a number of prosperous London doll makers.

But in spite of that fact a million dollars worth of toys are taken into England every year.

The methods of making dolls is interesting,

worth of toys are taken into England every year.

The methods of making dolls is interesting, different manufacturers making a specialty of a certain part of the doll's anatomy.

In German towns where the industry thrives there are doll head makers, doll leg makers, doll arm makers, doll body makers, doll wignakers, and the manufacturer collects the various parts of the body and has them put together, sometimes in another town.

In London it is just the same. There the doll's eye making is quite an industry and hundreds of thousands of the eyes are sent out of England every year. Much of this work is also done in Paris.

It is an odd but true fact that since the coro-

also done in Paris.

It is an odd but true fact that since the coronation of Victoria blue eyes are almost universally used in dolls for the English market, and the black glass eyes exported to other countries.

nes. In London there are doll dressmakers, just as ickens so touchingly drew in his "Mutual

LADY ARNOLD, ONE OF QUEEN VICTORIA'S DOLLS.

Friend." Jenny Wrens are common enough in the great town, for to-day children can be as extravagant with their doll's trousseaus as their mothers are with their own outfits. There is nothing which real people have in the way of clothes. and toilette articles, furniture and

adornments that is not made for the doll

babies of the rich.

Originally dolls were made of wood, then of papier mache, then of plaster, and then of china, finally of wax, and at last of parian, beautifully colored. Gutta percha and rubber are still used for babies' dolls, but there are no such satisfactory dolls as rag dolls and no more artistic dolls either—that is, for the use of the tiny baby.

That was do not of the things she missed by being born grown up.

It would not be surprising if Cain and Abel played with dis. The training of the children did not have their dollies.

No one knows who made the first one or who suggested it.

No one knows who made the first one or who suggested it.

No one knows who made the first one or who suggested it.

No one knows who made the first one or who suggested it.

It is a love as common to the passion has interested scient into a spreathing. The reason of the passion has interested scient most savage and uncivilized or fined of nations. The savage the first one or who suggested it.

It is a love as common to the most refined of nations. The savage bone or one into Africa hugs a bady of carved bone or one in the first one of the most seed of the most scheduled in the savage and uncivilized or fined of nations. The savage bone or one in the first one of the most refined of nations. The savage bone or one in the first one of the most refined of nations. The savage bone or one in the first one of the most refined of nations. The savage bone or one in the first one of the most refined of nations. The savage bone or one in the first one of the most refined of nations. The savage bone or one in the first one of the most seed of the most of the first one of the most seed of the most refined of nations. The savage bone or one in the first one of the most of the first one of the most of the first one of the first one of the most of the first one of the first one of the most of the first one of the first

ANNOUNCEMENT.

Owing to the changes announced for the Puzzle department, which render it necessary that it shall hereafter be conducted from the home office, we are forced, reluctantly, to part company with our friend Oldcastle, of the Mystic Circle.

As announced last month, all correspondence in regard to the Mystic Circle must still be addressed to Oldcastle, Utica, N. Y.; and all communications in regard to the New Prize Puzzle Club, to the Editor Prize Puzzle Club, Augusta, Me.

SOLVERS OF FEB. MYSTERIES.

W. E. Wiatt, 91-2; Eglautine, 9; Waldemar, Miss Blanche Bancroft, 81-2; Thinker, Cowboy and F. I. Dont, 7; Swamp Angel, 61-2; Sear, Aspiro, 6; Ypsie, 5; Locust, So So, Lomax, Calo and Tyro, 4; P. A. Stime, Mrs. G. P. C., Misses Josie and Daisy Bourjal, 3; Eureka, Gogebie and Julia McKinley, 2; W. C. Marlow, 1.

Prize-winners:—1. W. E. Wiatt. 2. Eglantine. 3. Waldemar.

SOLUTIONS TO FEBRUARY'S MYSTERIES.

SOC SAVAGE SIGMOID ARIMAN GRIPS VIPERS OMINATE AMERCE OPAKE GARCIA CISTERN ENSEANI DEN TAT
EGRESS
TRAPPER
GAELIC
APPLE
REVERE
APPAUME
ELEVEN
PLUME
SIRENE
TEEMERS
SCENES
RES No 385. No. 386. RES BANANAS SALINE NIDOR 87. J SO YEOLITE ENGINE OGIVE

Ink-horn. Tobacco-pipe

SE.

No. 391.—

TARANIS

MARINER

MEDALET

SENEGEN

SENATOR

DILATED

CENTERS

ODDITIES.

Capital punishment is abolished in Colorado It is said that color-blindness prevails to an alarm-ing extent among sailors. When a baby girl is born in Sicily, a black flag is hung from the window.

There is a lake in Massachusetts which manages to keep itself full and still bear the name—Chaubuna-

In this country it is impossible to find a man wearing an official decoration. In France it is difficult to find anybody without one.

A New York bank has devised a patent paper tor checks, on which alterations are impossible without immediate revelation on the check itself.

"Wood-etching" is done with red-hot iron points, and platinum pencils heated at a spirit lamp. With these are traced, upon a delicate strip of fine-grained hard wood, a beautiful picture. A friendless old man dropped dead in New York last month, who was supposed to be a pauper. After his death a will was found leaving a property of nearly \$200,000 to various charities.

A man living near Utica, N. Y., who has been dumb for sixty-five years, has just regained his speech. Doctors cannot explain it, and all his neighbors are struck dumb with astonishment at the strange phenomenon.

phenomenon.

A Syracuse, N. Y., wheelman is to start, June 1st, for a four thousand mile trip across the continent. The novel thing about this is that he has but one leg; but he has the reputation of holding his own with any two-legged bicycler in the land.

A recent sale of postage stamps aggregated \$3,200. Some of the highest prices paid were for a Hawaiian island stamp of 1851, \$286; for a Baltimore of 1846, \$225; and for a New Haven stamp of 1845, \$325. At this rate it pays to save up old postage stamps.

prominent business man, and a letter which he had written at a considerable distance above it, on the same sheet.

A new trick of the forger is to bleach out, by chemicals, the body of a business man's letter, leaving the letter-head and signature intact. Then he writes in a promissory note on the blank space and gets it discounted by some reliable firm. Thus does chemistry aid the criminally inclined. It is, however, possible to test the paper thus treated and to prove that it has been bleached.

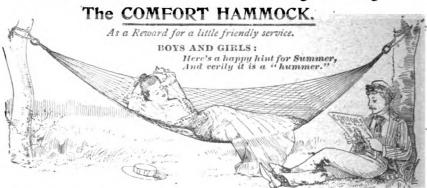
The greatest eater in the world died a few weeks ago in Pennsylvania. His first gastronomical feat was to eat five pounds of food at a sitting, some years ago. Since then he has caten fifty eggs in an hour; but his greatest achievement was a few years ago when he ate for one meal, a boiled goose, five pounds of frankfurters, one pound of Swiss cheese, a loaf of rye bread; and washed this slight repast down with two gallons of beer. He lived by eating, in an unusual sense, as he earned his living by wagers.

LADIES LACE PINS FREE.

We have some new style Gold-plate Bangle Pins coming in very unique patterns, comprising the Souvenir Spoon, Key and various new styles. We want every one to get our new Catalogue and Premium List of 500 new articles in Jewelery and Household goods, so if you address Morse & Co., Box 155. Augusta, Maine, and enclose 4c for mailing we will send one of these real gold-plated pins free postpaid, and also include a specimen copy of COMPORT, the only Magazine that has ever attained a circulation of over Eleven Hundred Thousand copies each issue.

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Ladies can make lots of money quickly, easily, and pleasantly. Write us at once for COMFORT. Augusta. Maine.



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THAT all months were like this, the royal month of May! "What is the meaning of the word May?" this, the royal month of May!

"What is the meaning of the
word May?"

Well, May means "to grow."
it is the season of growth. It
has always been the time of
rejoicing. The Romans celebrated it with floral games. In
the middle ages, from 450 A. D. to 1500

A.D. great folks and poor folks alike,
went forth at early morn "to fetch the
flowers fresh." They took the fairest
village girl and made her "Queen of May,"
worshipping her in a bower all day. The high
May-pole was used later, say in 1600. Wreaths
were placed on top and every one danced about
it. Religion put a stop to this. I guess the harm
of it was that the people drank too much ale that
day. In New England country towns, children
hang baskets of paper roses on the door-bell
knobs; natural flowers being rare in the cold
Eastern grounds, so early. May-day processions
are common and these consist of pretty, whiteclad girls with wreaths and little May-poles
decked with streamers. They go out of town and
eat their lunches and play games, then march
back just before sun-down. Boys, a few, with
sashes of paper flowers mix with the gay throng,
and the sight is a happy one.

This is the month for games out of doors.
Boys are alert with their traps and catch rabbits, squirrels, hare, foxes and coons; they also
watch out
for their
p i g e o ns.
Fishingnow
begins and
h u n ti n g
also; for all
Nature, all
that lives
and moves
is astir in
the sea and
on the land,
and things



become pretty lively all around.

"Give us some out of door games to play,
Uncle Charlie, wont you?"

Yes, I will, anything you want; here is a
pretty game. I saw some girls playing as they
sat in a sunny corner recently. I was watching
them from my room and could see and hear all
they were doing. They called the game

right at our feet, that we know nothing about?

KITES.

Now boys, for a chapter on kites. I know it is not quite time to fly them, but you might as well get a little knowledge about the business, for June will soon be le c a and kites will surely be flying by that time. The kite is named after the bird, "Kite," found in all parts of Europe, Asia and Africa and not unlike the hawk. These birds have long tails, are remarkable for these owned of a dozen companions. Each one laid finger upon her lap. When she shouted "Swallow Flies" or any other bird's name that files, up went all the ingers. When she named an object that did not fly group laughed and played, and all were counted out but two, and these contested one with the other, much to the amusement of all who watched the game most that they could not catch each other, much to the amusement of all who watched the game most sarnestly. I thought it better than "Simon says thumbs up," an ancient game—for it is more varied and lasts longer.

"What is 'Simon says thumbs up,' Uncle Charlie?"

They are old kite flyers, and practiced the art for centuries. No nation can all cut them for fine kites. I know it is not quite time to fly them, but you might as well get a little knowledge and all who watching the business, for June will soon be le c a and will savely be flying by that time. The kite is not flarer the bird, "Kite," found in all parts of Europe, Asia and Africa and not unlike the hawk. These birds have long tails, are remarkable for these birds have long tails, are remarkable to the flying by that time. The kite is and and untilike the hawk. These birds have long tails, are remarkable to the flying by that time. The kite is and and untilike the hawk. These birds have long tails, are remarkable to the flying and whiring about or gliding in the air.

They are old kite flyers, and practiced the art for centuries. No nation can all their construction. A book could be written about their kites alone. They use the gauziest and yet the strongest of paper; this is tot

game—for it is more varied and lasts longer.

"What is "Simon says thumbs up,' Uncle Charlie?"

Sure enough, Henry, I dare say thousands don't know the game; I will tell it to you, briefly. Now, all put their thumbs down, close the ast, that's it! When I say that Simon wants you to change, then change; if I leave off Simon's name and order thumbs out or in, or up or down, don't move. Simon says "thumbs in," that's right, all are turned in; "Simon says thumbs out." Correct, all point out; "now, up." Hal ha! Tommy and Ruby are caught. I did not say "Simon says thumbs up." Lots of fun in it, but the "Swallow Flies" is the best.

Here is a capital game that is an old one to

Here is a capital game that is an old one to me, but I presume a half million of my Circle of Comfort children never heard of it. It used to be called

NUMBER POETRY.

This is the way to play it. Some one repeat a piece of poetry aloud. I will, and all keep quiet. I will say the first word and then say one," then the second word and say "two." Now I begin, and now for fun.

Mary (one) had (two) a (three) little (four) lamb (five) its (six) fleece (seven) was (eight) white (nine) as (ten) snow (eleven) and (twelve) everywhere (thirteen) that (fourteen) Mary (fifteen) went (sixteen) the (seventeen) lamb (eighteen) was (nineteen) sure (twenty) to (twenty-one) go (twenty-two).

I never heard a person say this correctly, without a blunder, even the tenth time trying. It makes things merry if you will take turns in trying, not all try at once. When one fails he or she must stop and wait their turn again.

FLORA AND THE TOM CAT.

FLORA AND THE TOM EAT.

Here is a funny discovery made by Flora L. Robinson, a young miss living in Melrose Highlands, Mass. It seems that Flora's mother and father are fond of cats. They have one, "Pepper," a great big gray Tom, 15 years old; d'Artagnan, called Dart, for short, and named after d'Artagnan, who is an important character in Dumas' story, "The Three Musketeers"; and "Tags," a tiger cat, who tags you about everywhere you go. The family were seated at the dining-room table after it had been cleared and the three cats were lolling for a few minutes in the center of it. Flora was chatting and had a little piece of newspaper ou the end of her finger, which she was idly rubbing on the cat's back—"Pepper's" I think. For a moment she ceased her conversation, paying attention to the bit of paper, which try as she may, she could not with one hand release from her fingers.

"Look," she exclaimed, "how that bit of paper sticks."

"Sure enough," said the others.

"Try a larger piece." said one.

Sure enough," said the others. "Try a larger piece," said one. Accordingly a piece as big

as a hand was rubbed quickly over "Pepper's" spine and the hand was raised quickly, the paper following it as shown in the picture. In the course of a moment

course of a moment or two the paper dropped. Here was an illustration of a nim al electrical heat and magnetism, which came all by accident. Run, Samuel, get the cat and let's try it. Is there not a lot of strange, curious, funny things in this world, right at our feet, that we know nothing about?

KITES.



places. Their string is light and strong also, which enables them to send the kite way up almost out of sight. At night they send up kites with lights in them. Some of these kites are half a dozen feet long and look like demons sailing through the solemn space of heaven.

Our kites are comparatively simple. They are ugly things but, if made right, are good flyers in a fair wind.



The square kite is made of a very light frame tacked in the center and wound about with string. The outer edges are encircled with string, the sticks being notched in the ends. Newspaper, or tissue paper is then laid down and the frame placed upon it. Cut the paper nearly two inches larger than outside of frame. Turn the edges over, after the paste is put on,

and let the whole dry hard before applying loops. The loops should be made as follows:—Upper ends of one string, reaching in center to center of kite. Center string to be one half length of kite. Lower, or bobbin string, half length of kite. length of kite.

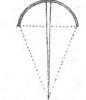




I fancy you know these points already, Harry. The bow kite is a pretty affair. The top is made of a barrel hoop, the center stick coming through the hoop at the top.

The bobbins should be seven times the length of the kite when made of paper. Strips of woolen cloth, ten times the kite's length with a paper tail, make the the best sort of balance to the bow kite. The six cornered kite is hard to make, but looks very pretty in the air. Never try flying a kite when there is little or no breeze. You are sure to drag the kite on the





Back view of Bow Hite.

Center stick & hoop top.

earth and break the paper. When the kite is pitched, hold it with both hands over the head, wait for a strong breeze and then "let her go." If it bobs about and "dives" put on more tail, at the end, a tuft of long grass is as good as paper. And now while you are trying it, I will go in and take a nap—so good-bye—

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good hand can be organized with little practice, as the keys require no fingering.

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A Child's Love for a Doll.

IIAS OFTEN BEEN COMMENTED ON. - READ ABOUT THE NEW STYLE DOLLS.



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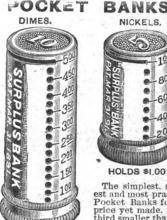
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LAST every saint and sinner is to have a change of air, as the Government has decided to reform the weather. If there is a country on the face of the globe whose mean temperature during the past year has been meaner than that of the United States, the exhibit of the weather machine of such country at the World's Fair ought to be a stunner.

According to reports, it seems that ever since the signal service was turned over from the war to the agricultural department, about a year ago, the latter has been raising more wind than wheat, and harvesting more thunder than turnips. Some of the high-priced clerks, it is said, were too innocent to correctly read the barometer, but sufficiently enterprising to carry off and pawn the entire weather outfit, from the official spittoon to the silvery lining which our grandmothers told us silvery lining which our grandmothers told us to decide the danger signal until it had commenced raining, or hats and hoop-skirts were seen soaring through the air.

From promises held out, we may now look for a region of pernetual sunshine, relieved by gentle

ars and noop-skirts were seen soaring through the air.

From promises held out, we may now look for a reign of perpetual sunshine, relieved by gentle showers of ottar of roses, and farmers may reasonably expect to raise four crops a year from the newly discovered plant that produces potatoes at the bottom, corn at the top and wood in the middle—food, the land fodder all in one; while Mary Ann can go to the picnic all the year round. In other words, the weather flag of the future is trimmed with tidings of comfort and joy.

NE of the great ocean steamers recently brought to New York the latest candidate for American clitizenship. His baggage consisted chiefly of a sprig of shamrock, an old clay pipe and a severe toothache. For the relief of the latter, he betook himself to one of the popular painless dental parlors, for which the metropolis is noted. On entering, the royal luxury of the place struck him so nearly dumb with astonishment that he was scarcely able to point out his tuneful tooth. Amid sounds of the softest, most entrancing music, which floated mysteriously upon the air, a beautiful damsel approached and motioned him to a gorgeously nickle-plated red plush chair. She then gave him the end of a highly ornamented hose-pipe to bite on, and smilingly invited him to help himself to a dose of laughing gas. He did so, and the first thing he knew was that he didn't know anything—until he was roused by a gentle shake and the sight of his quarrelsome tang held up before him.

With many expressions of gratitude Pat prepared to pay his bill, but almost swooned a second time when the little lady said, "Two dollars, please." "Why," said he, "in me native town of Cork there was a man who lived three steries up in a 'little back room and did bleedn' and clippin' of terrier's ears and tooth drawin'. And it's meself that wit wance to him with an achin' tooth and he got a foine holt on it and gev a murtherous pull. It wouldn't come. An' he dragged me out of the chair and him still on the tooth; and down the third prir of steps we wint together, and just as we struck the sidewalk the tooth kem out—an' all that only cost ninepence." That recalls an incident in the life of John McCullough, the famous actor. While playing in an olhoi theatre, one of the "supers," who assisted in the production, had to rush upon the stage yelling, "Flee, fiee, thine enemy is upon you." He did this in about the same tone of voice in which one would sak a stranger to show him the way home. This so provoked McCullough that he called a dress re-

hearsal the next afternoon. After bidding the super to stand one side, the great tragedian set about showing him how to make the announcement. At the cue word, he came tearing on the stage, the picture of fright and wild excitement, and in the most ter-rife slaughter-hou se voice bawled forth, "Flee, flee, thin e enemy is upon you," in such a realistic manner that half the company were on the point of taking to their heels, while the stage carpenter yelled "police, police!" After the excitement ad calmed down, the super stepped forward and said, "Misther McCullough, if Oi cud sphake thim words loike yerself Oi'd be scallywagged if Oi'd worruk for fifty cents a night." The actor wilted.

It is rumored that a syndicate has been formed for

It is rumored that a syndicate has been formed for

the purpose of exhibiting at the World's Fair the only true specimen of American independence—one that will be looked upon with awe by the natives, and with curiosity by all foreigners. It is the American Hired Girl As She Is. The only hitch that has occurred seems to be in the choice of the best representative type of that queenly creature—whether to exhibit the one who wants the parlor to entertain her company in, or the one who "never works in a family as has children." Why not compromise the matter and send the fairy who "wont hire out in the country because there's so little excitement?"

amily as has children." Why not compromise the matter and send the fairy who "wont hire out in the country because there's so little excitement?"

IT is wholly in the interest of suffering humanity and without the least desire o indulge in see if glorification, that we advise visitors to the World's Fair not to leave Chicago before examining an invention in which the author of these lines feel a a personal pride. The exhibit may be found in the woman-suffrage department of the Arts and Sciences building, and no wife, mother, sweetheart or sister should fail to devote to its modest merits a few moments of personal, unprejudiced inspection. In other words, a visit to the fair will be incomplete without seeing the wonderful workings of the Kinsabby Crinoline, or Patent Pneumatic Petticoat, of which illustrations drawn from life by COMPORT's fashion artist are here given. This invention artist are here given. The content applied for in thirteen languages and all rights reserved was suggested by the attempted revival abroad of the bell-shaped skirt, while readily navigated in fair weather and when there is pointy of leeway, behaves scandalously in company or when working to windward. With the Pneumatic Petticoat it is the simplest thing in the world to each dexterity with which our crack American yachtsmen walk off with the British cup every year.

Its wonderful self-adjustment is due to a series of air-tight hems and tucks, which are made of rainbow ribbon and rendered collapsable and inflatable and will the fair occupant merely pressing one or the other of two ornamental but inconspicuous buttons the remaining the string and the world to see the wind with the eartist and proposed herself' by touching the inflation button, or instantly become slight and slender by means of the automatic collapser.

A special feature of this novel invention is an attachment known as



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It is adapted to all walks of life, including side-walks and cake-walks, and while modesty prevents our speaking further in its behalf, we print with pride and satisfaction the following testimonials:

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Monsieur Kinsabby:—Ze Crinoline is ze premiere petticoat of ze nineteenth century. It ees magnifique —vat you call immense—bang up! Yours for Com-fort, SARA BERNHARDT.

To Comfort:—I consider the Kinsabby Crinoline a greater discovery than "Ta-ra-ra," and when I am "In it" I can kick three feet higher than ever.

LOTTIE COLLINS, champion skirt dancer.

To the Publishers of Comfort:-I appeared last night as "Cleopatra" in a Kinsabby Crinoline. When I expanded it, it brought down the house. I shall wear no other. Mrs. James Brown Potter.

wear no other. Mrs. James Brown Potter.
Editor Comport:—During my next farewell tour I shall wear nothing but the Kinsabby Crinoline.
As this crinoline is constructed principally of air, any nimble fingered maid who is elever with needle and thread may possess one at a nominal cost. With a view to giving the fullest particulars, there will shortly be published a profusely illustrated pamphet entitled "The Kinsabby Crinoline, or the Rise and Fall of the Hoop Skirt." Anyone wishing a copy should send to the author thirty-seven five-cent stamps, not for publication, but to help along the good cause of Dress Reform.

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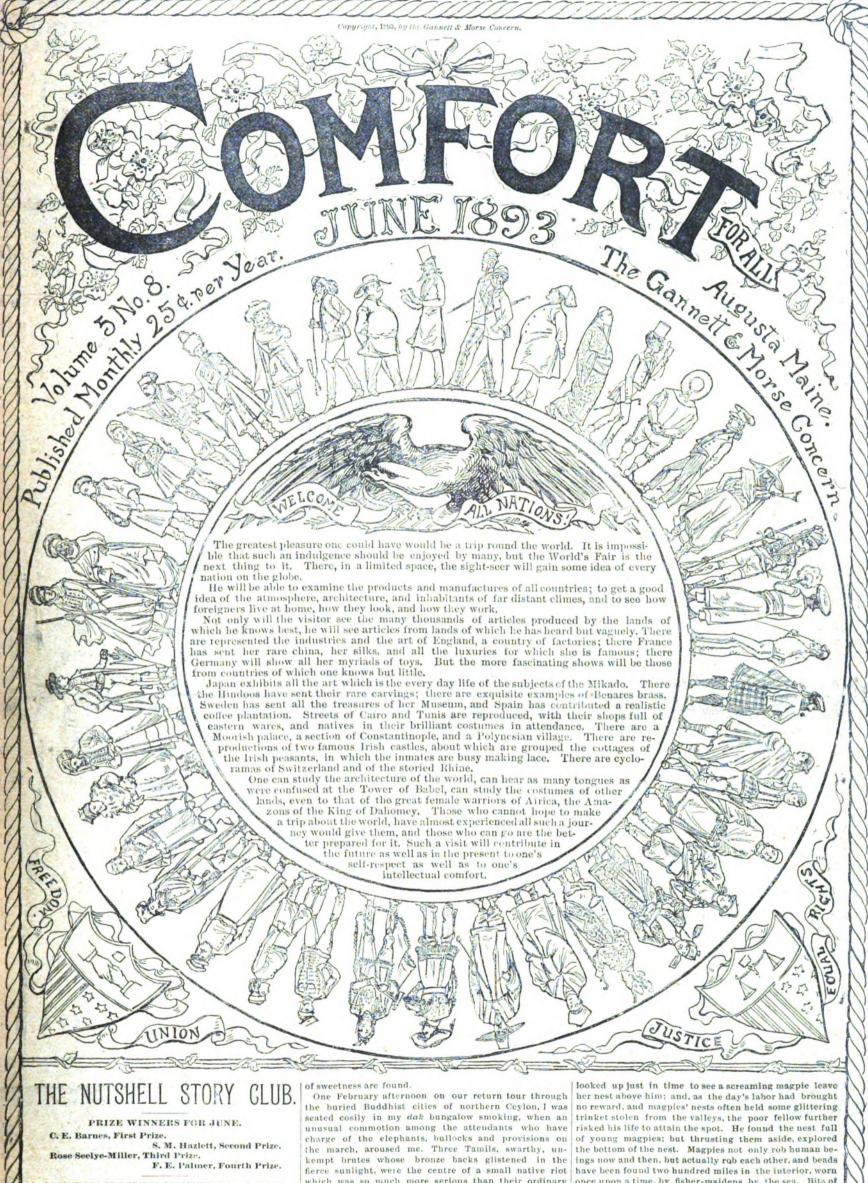


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A WILD HONEY-HUNTER'S LUCK.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT BY CHAS, EDWARD BARNES,

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HERE are many curious occupations in the world. but quite the strangest of any you might name is that of-"honey-hunting." The trade, so far as I know, is confined to Ceylon where the Tamils ply it in the wild jungles, as vast quantities of the comb are found in caverns in the cliffs, probably the fruit of centuries of labor and waiting for that winter which never

which was so much more serious than their ordinary quarrels, that I commanded the men before me. found that all three were wild-honey hunters who had journeyed down from the far-away city of Anaradjapoora, sleeping in the tree-tops by night, accomplishing the feat in three days. Amazed at this extraordinary energy, I was still more astonished, when, after repeated threats alternating with coaxings, I found out the real reason of their mad flight from the jungles to civilization. It seems that a few days before they were scaling

the cliff-side in search of honey-which, let me pause to say, the savages use to embalm their dead with, as comes. Bee-chasers become very expert; and whenever well as to eat, honey containing almost the only salt hey see a bee making his proverbial straight line for attainable to them-when one of their number, upon he cliffs, the direction is taken, and sometimes tons a dizzy ledge of rock, sat down to rest. Suddenly he where they stopped for rice and arrack, that the find

once upon a time, by fisher-maidens by the sea. Bits of glass, bright shells, and a scrap of tin-foil were all that rewarded the climber until he drew forth a glittering thing which made his eyes almost leap from their sockets. It was a diamond necklace!

Had not the poor savage thought that perhaps the bright yellow metal was gold, he would not have so precipitated his flight to the valley, joining his comrades; but when one of the wiser saw the lustreless jewels he bought the treasure for some barbaric trinket, and started on a dead run, followed at the heels by the other two, over the difficult and perilous road toward civilization, the necklace bound up in the coils of his long black hair. It was in our camp

was disclosed, and the greed of the wiser ones of my

Bit by bit, I got this strange history, with all the savage gestures and intonations. The poor fellows crouched about me as I examined the priceless treasure with its antique setting and quaint clasp, not knowing whether they were to be rewarded or killed for their pains. I reassured them, however, and assumed the double role of protector of the treasure, and rewarder for the finders, setting about to find the heirs of the real owners of the mysterious trove. I discovered, by microscopic examination, the name of the London jewelers who made the setting. Three months later, being in London myself, I sought out their successors. The firm which had set the diamonds had gone out of trade in 1831. I then found that the Governor of Ceylon, during that troublesome period, was Sir Francis Bentley, whose descendants still held the old home in Devonshire. It was there, after weeks of arduous search through the family records of the baronet, happily attended in my quest by the beautiful grand-niece of the illustrious man himself, that I happened upon the fragment of a diary which ran thus:

diary which ran thus:

"... and Lady Bentley, almost distracted, resumes the search to-day. The Kaudian King, beside himself with rage that so valuable a jewel should disappear in his household while milady was his honored guest for the afternoon, has not only commanded a most rigorous search, but has actualy put death the aftendant who had charge of milady's garments temporarily, and caused four other native servants to be tortured into confession—all to no avail. He fears that we suspect him of conniving with the servants, and is beside himself. I have dispatched my secretary to him, requesting that he cense his crucities and let the matter drop; but the whole English quarter, it seems, has gone into mourning, and Lady Bentley herself is overcome way?...."

Of course, tragic as was the outcome, we were de-

Her warm, brown eyes only widened with a ques-

Her warm, brown eyes only widened with a questioning glance.
"That other is Love!" said I bravely.
For a moment she regarded me; her cheeks suddenly flushed; and as I tried to clasp her hands, she field into the mansion.
But I, too, had learned a lesson from the wise wildhoney hunter; and so, climbed after the honey-laden bee, finding her in the quaint little study-room overlooking the valley. And there on that sweet hour I found my storehouse of honey—the kiss of red lips, the joy of a vow of confidence and trust, and a bosom overflowing with the sweetness of a tender woman's love.

I sent the Tamils twice the sum I had bargained for, prompted by a sense of gratitude for my own undeserved reward.

THE ENGINEER'S STORY.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT BY S. M. HAZLETT.

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O you fellows don't believe in spirits?" said Hank Staver, the veteran engineer, to the group of railroad men in the round house. "But you woul ; believe in them if you had had the experience I did. I never believed in such things," continued Hank, "until, not only my life but the lives of my passengers, were saved in a mysterious way; and now I am a firm believer in

"How was that Hank?" said a man in the group who answered to the name of "Frenchy."

"Well, it came about in this way," he began, seating himself on the step of the locomotive. "The story I am about

to relate happened about six years ago, just two years after the death of my elder brother James. Jim and I were great chums, more so than brothers usually are. I thought a great deal of him, and I believe my affection was fully returned. He always believed that the spirits of the dead could return to earth, but I declared that it was all sheer nonsense, and then he would laugh at

many a talk together. He often said that after his death be would return in spirit and make his presence known to me if possible. I tried to cheer him up, telling him he would get well, and although I did not believe in this nonsense, as I called it, I humored him, as I saw he was very much in earnest.

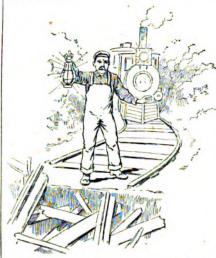
'Soon he died. It was a hard blow to me as he was the dearest friend I had on earth, and the rest of my immediate relations were dead. I was running the Orleans express on what was known as overland route. My run was between Mounds and Water Valley. Jim had ridden over the road on the engine with me several times. Along the road where I ran was a place called Payson. Near it, not fifty feet from the track, was a cemetery. Jim saw this one moonlight night and remarked that when he died he wanted to be buried there. I passed it every and he thought he would be near me. laughed at him, but when he was dead his words came back and I buried him in the Payson cemetery. On moonlight nights while passing Payson, I could see the newly made grave where he lay, and it always brought fresh tears to my eyes.

"Nothing eventful happened till about two years after his death. I was thinking of him one night as I after his death. I was thinking of him one night as I walked down to the round house to get out Engine 926. My train was due to leave at 11 o'clock. At 10.30 I took the engine out, backed her down to the depot and coupled her on to the train. I felt a nervous presentiment, as if something were going to happen to me, as I sat in the cab waiting for the signal to go. Presently the conductor called 'all aboard,' and gave the signal. We were soon spinning along at a good rate, leaving the city with its lights and shadows far behind. As our speed increased and we got well on our way,my spirits rose somewhat, al-

though I could not wholly shake off the uneasy presentiment. The night was intensely black. I could hardly see 50 feet ahead of the engine. On! on! we sped, and soon reached Payson. We were not scheduled to stop there, so I did not shut off steam. As we passed the cemetery, I looked over as was my custom. But the night was so intensely dark I could see nothing but the white monuments, here and there, standing like spectres guarding the quiet city of the dead. We passed it in a minute and were soon out of sight. The night was very warm and I had the cab window open. About five miles further on, was a wooden bridge crossing a small stream. It was not very deep but the bridge was about 75 feet long. As we neared this stream I felt a touch on my right arm. My hand was on the throttle. I turned around thinking it was the fireman, but not so. He was sitting in his seat. Instinctively I seemed to feel my brother sitting in the seat with me and whispering in my ear to stop before crossing the bridge. I tried to shake off the feeling and intended to pull the throttle wider and give her more steam. We were now about a mile from the bridge. I again felt the touch on my arm. This time it seemed to shove my hand against the throttle, shutting off the steam. The momentum of the train grew slower and slower. I seemed to hear my brother whispering in my ear:

"Put on the air-brake! put on the air-brake!"

"I put my hand on the air-brake lever and brought the train to a stop about 50 feet from the bridge. The fireman looked over at me inquiringly. I hardly knew myself why I had stopped. I must admit I felt rather ashamed. though I could not wholly shake off the uneasy presentiment. The night was intensely black. I could



"As I knew the conductor would soon come out to jumped down and ran ahead with my torch to the bridge. The rails across it were in place although a little saged. But the whole wooden under-structure of the bridge had been entirely burned. Nothing remained but a few embers on the shore of the stream below. I shuddered as I thought of the awful wreck that would have occurred had I not been warned. The conductor came up and inquired how I had come to stop. I told him I could not explain it, not wishing to tell this story I have given you, as I thought he would not believe it.

"We backed the train to Payson and notified the Superintendent so that all trains from the opposite direction could be held. Then getting help and material, we took them to the bridge, on the engine. It was noon the next day before they had it repaired temporarily so trains could pass.
"I ran on that same run for three years after, that and each night as we passed the cemetery at Payson, I seemed to feel that my brother shared my seat with me, and rode always as far as the bridge. And each night as I neared the cemetery, I instinctively made room on the seat for him. I armly believe to this day it was the spirit of my dead brother. Do you wonder now that I believe in spirits?"

MISS HETTY.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT BY ROSE SEELYE-MILLER.

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T was so fortunate," chirped Miss Hetty. "It was so fortunate, and such a sale at the end of the day too, when one would naturally suppose the trade over. It really was providential, it real-



ly was," And Miss Hetty picked up some imaginary scraps from the neat floor, and did bits of needless tidying in the little shop, which was all too unaccustomed to the tread of feet, and the litter of trade.

"It was so fortunate." she again chirped, after going into the little back room she called home. "I don't know but it would seem foolish to other folks, but I do like to celebrate this anniversary, just the same. Well, no; not just the same, but then, set it apart and hallow it like, and someway,make it seem different than the other days, though I'm sure I'd never complain of any day. For in spite of John's not coming back, I know he would have come if he could; and then I've really been so favored of Providence always, always enough; and always on this anniversary, I've had so much, so much, that I could ask some one to share my dinner. And so have the pleasure of company, and such recreation it is, too." And Miss Hetty, chirping to herself, busied her hands daintily, building a fire, putting on the kettle, and doing other little housewifely duties.

"And now I must just run up to the Miss Teeterses. and ask them if they will favor me by coming in to tea: and then I'll go around to the grocery, and get some real tea, and some sugar, and then to the baker's for a loaf and some cakes, y-e-s, I really think we may have some cakes, they will be such a treat." And she tied her tiny bonnet under her chin that still had a dimple, though Miss Hetty was past forty. Her cheeks too were softly pink, and her brown hair waved back from her forchead, in a way that would have been quite bewitching in a younger maiden.

Her errands were finished and the two Miss Teeterses arrived soon after Miss Hetty returned. She had added to the bill of fare some lamb chops, an unheard of extravagance to the three maiden ladies for whom these delicacies were preparing.

Miss Hetty busied herself setting the little table drawing it as near the blazing flie as might be, for its genial warmth, and to be handy to the teapot after genial warmth, and to be handy to the teapot after sitting down. The lamb chops sizzled and fried over the fire, and Miss Hetty and the two Miss Teeterses chirped. Miss Hetty told them all about the wonderful sale that had come, "just at night when one would think the trade of the day about over."

"A man came and bought all those ribbons and things!" cjaculated the elder Miss Teeters.

"A man!" repeated Miss Teeters the younger.
"It really was wonderful, and so providential too," said Miss Hetty. "I couldn't well see his face, but what does that matter? He wore such a big hat."

Miss Hetty always emphasized her adjectives. "And his voice really was pleasant, making me think of the voice really was pleasant, making me think of the voice really and this Miss Hetty always emphasized her adjectives. "And his voice really was pleasant, making me think of Jack, who would have come back if he could, and this is the anniversary of The Day," said Hetty brightly, the shell pink of her cheeks deepening, and her eyes very bright.

"Providential, indeed!" Miss Teeters the elder remarked sagely, taking the cup of tea Miss Hetty handed her.

"Providential!" re-echoed Miss Teeters the younger, who was seldom known to make an original remark.

The meal progressed is the most of the same tempts.

younger, who was seldom known to make an original remark.

The meal progressed in the most cheerful manner, Miss Hetty doing the honors in a way really charming to her two guests. "Another cake, Miss Teeters?" "No more, thank you; Ive eaten such a meal," and Miss Teeters the elder wiped her mouth daintily on the napkin made from a worn out cloth, apparently perfectly unconscious that it was not the finest doily. "Such a meal;" and Miss Teeters the younger followed her worthy sister's example.

"A bit of something warm is so appetizing these cold nights," Miss Teeters the elder remarked, quite drawn out of herself by the tea and bit of lamb chop. A knock at the outer door prevented Miss Teeters the younger from making her testimony to the same effect, and rather startled the three not youthful maidens, who had been drinking their tea in the most utter unconsciousness that a man was striding that way, and was at that very moment knocking at the door.

Miss Hetty took the one lamp and went into the

effect, and rather stated the first call the most utter unconsciousness that a man was striding that way, and was at that very moment knocking at the door.

Miss Hetty took the one lamp and went into the passage with some trepidation. "It was such an unusual occurrence," she was saying to herself. She started back a little as the open door revealed her customer of a few hours before. "Ah, he wants to change some of those ribbons or something," thought Miss Hetty. "Men don't always know what their women folks want." With this thought in her mind, she invited him to enter.

He accepted the invitation with alacrity, and was soon scated in the little room making himself quite agreeable to the three.

After he had drank a cup of tea he launched into his errand. "Well now, Mesdames," he said, bowing to all three, "you may well wonder what brings me here; but this lady," bowing to Miss Hetty, "served me with such patience this afternoon, that, having a delicate errand to do for an old friend, I just thought maybe she might give me so e little aid. You see I met a man in Australia who had gone there with the hope of making his fortune. He had hard luck for awhile, and when he wrote to his sweetheart, at the time appointed for him to come back, to know whether he should come or not, he received no reply. This broke the poor fellow up so, that he grew reckless and did not care what he did, so he went away to India to the war. He was lost sight of for a great while. His friend who had been trying to find him for years, had a letter for him. It was from the girl who he thought did not care for him unless he was rich. It was just the nicest letter. There you have it maam," handing the letter to Miss Hetty's cheeks paled as she saw the letter she had written John Hunter so many long years ago. She looked at the two Miss Tecterses, then at the man. Miss Tecters the elder, seeing her embarrassment came and looked over her shoulder. Miss Hetty ran her index finger along the last line. The name was her own.

"Why, it's Miss Hett

"Why, it's Miss Hetty herself," exclaimed the Miss Teeters.

"Miss Hetty," echoed Miss Teeters the younger.
"Not you maam?" queried the man.
"It's my name," faitered Miss Hetty, the shell pink deepening in her cheek.
"Jack left something for you," continued the man.
"you wouldn't fret, now, after all these years, to know he'd narried, lost his wife, died, and left three childrer which—"
"Which you have brought to me," put in Miss Hetty.

Hetty.
"Well, if he left plenty of money along with them-



"Jack," cried Miss Hetty.
"Hetty," exclaimed the man, and gathered her in is arms.
The two Miss Teeterses quietly slipped away.
"It's not true about the wife and children?" gasped

"It's not true about the wife and children?" gasped Miss Hetty.
"Not a word of truth. But the wife must be made true very soon."
"But the shop?" interrogated Miss Hetty.
"Throw the key away." Jack advised.
"Or give it to the two Miss Teeterses," said Hetty thoughtfully.
"It's just like a novel," the elder Miss Teeters averred.

"It's just like a nove, avered, "Like a novel," assented the younger.

"Like a novel," assented the younger.

And it was. Hetty and Jack were married quietly, and the shell pink in her cheeks looked very pretty amid the soft folds of lace about her throat; and the dimples in her chin never looked more girlish than they did on the wedding day of the sweet and patient little woman whose faith in Jack had never wavered. And they always celebrated the anniversary that Miss Hetty had liked to "set apart and hallow."

A RACE FOR A LIFE.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT BY F. E. PALMER.

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N the month of April, nearly fifteen years ago, I started with a companion from Jacksonport, Ark., to make the trip overland to Western Kan-



We were both accustomed to horseback riding, and as our route lay directly across the Ozark mountains, we reduced our wardrobes until two pairs of saddle-bags were large enough to hold all our earthly belongings, so far as personal property was concerned each mounted on a wiry mountain pony, we set forth with light hearts, prepared to make a lead mine of any robber who

ttempted to intercept us, or to pursue any adventure that did not lead us too far from our path.

We averaged about twenty-five miles a day when in the saddle, but owing to rainy weather, and favorite wayside inns and farm houses, which frequently tempted us to remain guests for several days at a time, our ponies gained flesh steadily instead of los ing it, and no doubt congratulated themselves daily on having secured such excellent masters.

But it is merely of an incident of that journey I wish to write-an incident which to this day remains

(NUTSHELL STORIES CONTINUED ON PAGE 3.)

"August Flower"

My wife suffered with indigestion and dyspepsia for years. Life be-came a burden to her. Physicians failed to give relief. After reading one of your books, I purchased a bottle of August Flower. It worked like a charm. My wife received im-mediate relief after taking the first dose. She was completely curednow weighs 165 pounds, and can eat anything she desires without any deleterious results as was formerly the case. C. H. Dear, Prop'r Washington House, Washington, Va. @



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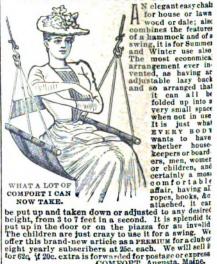
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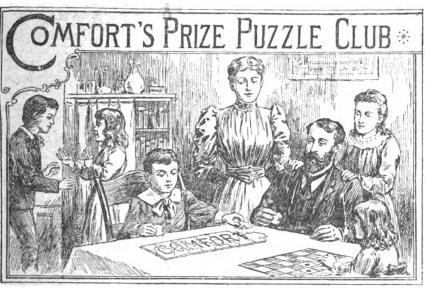
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offer this brand-new article as a PREMIUM for a club of eight yearly subscribers at 25c. each. We will sell \$\mathbb{\text{for 62c}}\$, if 20c. extra is forwarded for postage or express COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



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To become a member of Comfort's Prize Puzzle Club, it will be necessary to be a regular, yearly, paid-up subscriber to Comfort. also to send in, at one time, the names of not less than four new subscribers with 25 cents for each, to pay for one year's subscription to Comfort. These four or more subscribers must be sent in one lot, and will be received any time before the competition closes.

It must be distinctly understood, however, that subscriptions sent in under this Prize Puzzle Club offer are not entitled to any premiums which may be offered by the publishers of Comfort to other getters-up of Clubs. Old and young, men, women, boys and girls, are cordially invited to join the club.

We shall publish in May, June, July and August, from six to ten prize puzzles in each issue. We shall award twenty-seven cash prizes, amounting in all to \$100, to those members of the club who send in, before September tenth, the largest number of correct answers to the puzzles published during the our months above named.

The answers to puzzles which appear in these four numbers of Comfort, must be sent in one lot, and must reach us before September tenth. Parties may become members at any time, and by securing back numbers may take part in this prize competition; but, as we cannot agree to supply back numbers, and as Comfort costs but 25 cents a year, it is for the advantage of all to become members of the Prize Puzzle Club at the earliest possible date.

Competitors must write plainly, on one side of the sheet only, numbering their answers, consecutively, in the order they appear in Comfort; and aside from answers to puzzles, letters must contain nothing, whatever, but date, full name and full post-office address of the sender. All replies and lists of new subscribers sent under this offer must be sufficiently stamped, and addressed to EDITOR COMFORT'S PRIZE PUZZLE CLUB, AUGUSTA MAINE. Remittances should be made by mo-ey vider, postal note, registered letter, or may be sen in postage stamps at the sender's risk. The member s

and the twenty sending in the twenty next highest number will receive 20 cash prizes of one dollar each 20

The award of prizes will be announced in the October issue of Comfort. Should two parties send in the highest number of answers, the one having sent the largest number of subscribers to COMFORT, will be considered first in the awarding of prizes. This competition is open, positively, to members of this club only; and no one may compete who has not fully complied with all the above named conditions.

We present to the Prize Puzzle Club a pleasing variety for their entertainment this month, and to any who may consider the puzzles difficult let me say a word.

Everything in this world which is worth having is worth striving after. If we could go out and pick up money in the streets we should not care for it as much as we do now. We should lose our incentive to work and become lazy, dull, discontented. "Work, not idleness, leads to enjoyment," says an excellent writer. "Idleness consumes men more than rust does iron." If you want a bright and active brain learn how to use it, and there is no better way of doing it than this which is offered you, right here.

I shall be glad to explain any puzzles that you do not understand if you will let me know which they are, but you must not be too easily discouraged if on a first or second reading they do not seem clear to you.

Use your brain; persist; and you will be sure to conquer in the end.

9.—

Transpositions.

TRANSPOSITIONS.

In the following puzzle you are to fill the blanks with words composed of the same letters, but transposed to make different words.

1. He heard the—and gave one—over the—

1. He heard the—and but fence.
2. It was—with hunger, and followed the—making a queer—for the dog.
3. Every—was filled until the—was over; no one appeared to—
4. It will be—; do you—to—it?
5. In—that—will—a noise that will be no small—.

small—.

6. If we—as we ought we shall hate everything that is—, and do no—. ILLUSTRATED PR

A familiar proverb of six words may be guessed from the following illustration.

11.-LETTER HUNT. My first is in thicket:

My first is in thicket;
My second in hound;
My third is in German;
My fourth is in wound;
My fifth is in torpor;
My sixth is in reach;
My seventh is in jumble;
My eighth in depeach;
My ninth is in sailor;
My tenth in defiled;
My eleventh is in fairy:

y eleventh is in fairy; y twelfth in a child; y last is in friction, and also in bright; y whole I am sure is a wonderful sight. 12.-DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

0000000

1, to scatter over; 2, want of action; 3, a small anchor; 4, relating to summer; 5, a woman's name; 6, pertaining to classic games; 7, a ridge.
The initial letters spell a town in southern Minnesota. The terminal letters spell the name of a Scotish patriot and hero.

BURIED PROVERB.

One word from each of the following sentences will disclose one of Solomon's proverbs. I thought it was the right road. But it turned out the wrong way. I wish I had heard of it before. It was the fault of your sister. It seems like a wicked blunder. It is a great pity.

As it is we must make the best of it. We got lost in the darkness.

14.-

WORD PUZZLE

Every word of which this house is composed must spell also a word backward.

1 to 2, to rap lightly. 2 to 3, a cavity. 3 to 4, a plaything. 4 to 5, a kitchen utensil. 5 to 6, a time of day. 6 to 1, a snare. 1 to 4, to catch.

METAMORPHOSES.

Change one word to another word by altering one letter only at a time. Example:—Change Kite to Pint in three moves. Answer:—Kite, kine, pine, pint.

1. Change Pear to Rift in four moves.

2. Change Goat to Bear in three moves.

3. Change Lace to Goal in three moves.

4. Change Unit to Fife in three moves.

Change Mary to Ella in three moves.

CHARADE.

First we have a given name Composed of letters six: Think of all the boys you know And on it you will fix.

Next we have a daily act
Which I am sure you'll say,
Is very, very needful,
At dawn and close of day.

Now I'll give a syllable Composed of letters three; Oft 'tis used to end a word— Not as now, you see.

Lastly is a heavy weight,
Far more than you could raise;
Then my whole you'll have found out—
A great man of past days.

CORKSCREW PUZZLE.

(1).	0	0	0	^	C	
(2).	0	0	0	0	0	
(3).	0	0	0	0	0	
(4).	0	0	0	0	0	
(5).	0	0	0	0	0	
(6).	0	0	0	0	0	
(1).	0	0	0	0	0	
(8).	0	0	0	0	0	
(9).	0	O	O	0	0	
(10)	0	0	•	0	0	

1, something we should all strive for; 2, something we should avoid; 3, the source; 4, sour; 5. worth; 6, an opening; 7, a man's name; 8, vigorous; 9, keen; 10, a measure. The letters forming the corkscrew read downwards spell a populous city in the United States.

populous city in the United States.

NOTE.—I must ask the members of the Prize Puzzle Club to remember that in any puzzles where geographical names are used atlases of different editions, or by different writers, differ in some details. For instance, a town on one map may be a city on another, and vice versa. It is impossible to reckon exactly on these differences, but the solvers of puzzles can always be guided somewhat by the general make up of the puzzle, and when they cannot find a word to exactly suit come as near it as they can. Be sure also to write your answers very plainly on one side of the paper, and number them carefully.

LIST OF PRIZE-WINNERS-MARCH ISSUE.

Miss E. E. Brown, 36 Prospect Ave., Binghamton,
N. Y.

W. E. Wiatt, Gloucester, C. H., Va

D. F. Savage, Box 312, Hopkinsville, Ky. SOLUTIONS TO MARCH MYSTERIES.

No. 392. "He who would harvest his millet must atch the weather."

No. 393. Fire. No. 394. Comfort. No. 395. No. 396. AB SUN ARONIC BOVINE NIHIL INISLE CELLULE EL E SUN SECT MERCE MOREEN SERENED SERENADE SUCCEEDER CONTENDERS No. 397. Green-horn, No. 398. Hand-some.

99. M
SIT
FINER
SINOPER
MINORITES
TEPIDITY
RETIRER
RETENT No. 399. RETENT SYRTS

DI. V
SIP
STOAT
STILTED
VIOLATION
PATTING
TEIND
DOG No. 401. DOG N No. 403.

403. P
DOT
SETON
DELETES
POTENTATE
TOTTERY
NEARS
STY
E

HEM TAMER HAMATIC SEMIPAGAN METALED RIGEL CAD N No. 402.

No. 400. Novelist.

N
A04. P
PAT
MANES
PAROTIS
PAROTIS
PANORAMAS
TETANIC
SIMIA
SAC
S

No. 405. CYNARA EIKONS PIRATE NABOBS LAVEER SENATE SENATE
P A L
C H E M I C
P A N D O O R
H U M A N E
N A E V I
E M E N D S
A D E L I T E
M A N C U S
O V I N E
I N D U C E
L O I T E R S
C E S S E R
R E S

RS TO MARCH MYS SOLVERS TO MARCH MYSTERIES.

SOLVERS TO MARCH MYSTERIES.

Complete:—Eglantine.
Incompletes:—W. E. Wiatt, Delian, 14; Remardo, Calo, 13; Waldemar, 13 1-2; Ypsie, Frank, Essay, Sear, Mac, Hesperus, 12; Nimbus, Cowboy, Aspiro, So So, Tyro, 11; Frank I. Beckham, Mrs. G. P. C., 10; Phil, 91-2; Veritas, Lomax, Thinker, 9; Theophilus, Locust, 8; O. B. Server, 71-2; Minne A. Polis, Mrs. J. H. Cunningham, Warren V. Stone, Roy, 7; Misses Josie and Daisy Bourjal, Black-Eyed Charley, G. Whizz, H. Ennis, Dot, Zeni, 6; Remlap, Dick Graver, Bill Arp, Madchen, Lizzie M. Stemple, Halifax, Ajax, 4; Ollie Wood, Abe E. Lee, Jennie Harston, Blue Nose, 3; Keystone, Maude Walker, 2; Echo, Ben Net, Hi A. Watha, James L. Tiffany, one each.
Prize-Winners:—1, Eglantine, 2, W. E. Wiatt, 3, Delian, Specials:—No. 392, Waldemar, No. 398, Veritas, No. 399, Lomax, No. 400, Dick Graver, Nos. 401-404, Cowboy,
Contributions Accepted:—Miss Flora Davis, 8; Texas, 5; Ajax, Guardineer, Nimbus, and Hawkeye 3 each; Lomax, 2; Locust, Zeni, O. B. Server, and Aspiro one each.

THE NUTSHELL STORY CLUB.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2.)

as bright in my memory as on mo night when it occurred. We were nearing Banter Springs, Kansas, when one evening we secured lodgings of a farmer who resided along the highway. After eating supper, and growing tired of lounging around the house, I concluded to take a walk before bedtime. My com-panion was so deeply occupied in ogling a black-eyed wench who formed a part of the household, that I did not ask him to accompany me, knowing very well that the answer would be in the negative. It was a beautiful night. The moon was about full,

and the air, though still a little crisp, sweet with the perfume of the early springtime. I strolled on slowly, and had almost finished my second cigar when a building standing some fifteen or twenty feet from the highway attracted my attention. It stood at the edge of a clearing, was built of logs, and was probably a story and one-half high. It is possible that I would have been satisfied without a nearer approach, as the moon made everything perfectly plain to me; but I noticed that the building had shutters, a rarity in that part of the country, which roused my curiosity. They were tightly closed, however, and everything was so still and ouiet in the vicinity that I finally said to myself, "That must be a church"

Inally said to myself, "Inat must be a cource"

I approached nearer, and upon beholding several
horses tied to the branches of trees near by, became
assured that my conjecture was correct. I was by
the side of the building by this time, when suddenly
I became as one thunderstruck to hear a voice within

assured that my conjecture was correct. I was by the side of the building by this time, when suddenly I became as one thundersiruck to hear a voice within exclaim:

"Spare me! Spare me!"

"Spare you," thundered a second voice, deep and full of anger, "did you spare me and mine? Give me back the sister whom you wronged and then spurned until she took her own life! Give me back the brother who sought to avenge her and fell by your hand! Give me back the mother whose heart was broken beneath the weight of these afflictions! Mercy? Why, man, my only regret at this moment is that you have not a hundred lives that I might take them all and gloat over your protracted misery. Expect no mercy from me, Jack."

"And yet," the first voice pleaded, "I was but a boy when I wronged your sister, and she was by no means blamcless. Your brother sought to take my life and in self deciense I slew him. A jury found me guittless of crime. And now, you turn avenger and without giving me a single chance for my life, deliberately resolve to murder me. If you do this deed, which will be the greater criminal when we both stand before the bar of a just God?"

"Enough! I'll bear the responsibility. In the meantime, if you have anything special to say, say it at once, for your time here upon carth is about up."

"Ten of them by this watch, but not a second more. Make good use of the time."

Trembling from head to foot, I stood as if rivetted to the ground, when the voices ceased, and then a wild longing to prevent the const. amation of this murder, seized me. "I must and I will save that man," I cried, mentally; and the next moment I was speeding down the road for my lodging house. It was more than ten minutes in covering the distance.

"There is alman being murdered up the road, a man named Jack." I shrieked, flingring myself into the room where the family were gathered around the dying embers on the fireplace.

"By the godey! it's the Jones's got our Jack cornered," shouted the old man, grabbing his shot gun from the pegs on the wall. "Co



of his ancient shot gun, led me to get away from his immediate vicinity as quickly as possible.

An hour or two later, I glanced through a crack in the house. All had seemingly retired except the old man. He was sitting at the fireplace with his right, hand resting upon his heart and still wheezing terribly. As I looked, I heard him mutter between gasps:
"By the godey!—fooled at sixty-nine by—a blamed tdytot. Dern my old soul—if I don't—"
But I didn't wait to hear him finish the sentence, As noiselessly as a wild Indian I tip-toed out to the barn and slept in the hay mow until morning.

At daybreak I arose, and when the hired man came to feed the stock I gave him a dollar to saddle my horse and inform my partner that I had ridden ahead a few miles.

Reader, I was just twenty-one when that incident

a few miles.

Reader, I was just twenty-one when that incident occurred—the age of romance. Smile at my folly if you will, but, candidly, were not the circumstances such that even a wiser man might have been confounded?

NOTE.—If A. H. Bezzo who sent us a story about "Little Maud" will send his address to COMPORT, 228 Devonshire St., Boston, Mass., he will hear something to his advantage.

If Eugenia Carter, who sent a story entitled "That Awful Night" sometime ago, will send her address to Comfort at once, she will hear something to her advantage.

The following conditions will hereafter govern the avarding of cash prizes for Nutshell Stories, and the avarding of cash prizes for Nutshell Stories, and the annescripts of such writers only as have compiled with all these requirements will receive consideration.

All the necessary particulars being here clearly set forth, it will be useless for any one to seek further information or personal favors by addressing the editor, as such letters cannot be answered.

1. Only persons who are regular yearly subscribers to "Comfort" and who send with every manuscript at ieust two new yearly subscribers (together with 25 cents for each subscriber so sent) may compete for the prizes.

All contributions must have the number of words they contain plainly moted thereon in addition to the writer's full name and address with nom de plume if desired; must be written on one side of the paper only, addressed to Editor, Maine.

3. All stories must be strictly original with the contributors who may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace; of city or country life, or of experiences on land or sea—but no story must contain more than 1,500 or less than 1,000 words.

4. NO MANUSCRIPT WILL BE RETURNED UNDER ANY

NO MANUSCRIPT WILL BE RETURNED UNDER ANY

4. NO MANUSCRIPT WILL BE RETURNED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES AND COMPETITORS SHOULD THEREFORE RETAIN A COPY OF WHAT THEY SEND.

5. The writer of the best original story will receive \$30 cash, of the second best, \$25 cash, of the third best, \$20 cash and of the fourth best, \$15 cash. Remittances well be sent by creck as soon as wards have been made.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

The thousands of stories and the pleasant letters which our prize offer to the Nutshell Story Club brings us every week are most gratifying; but we must own that the offer has likewise brought some few expressions of discontent and suspicion. Universally these complaining letters have given evidence of the illiteracy of the writer, and the proof of their vanity as well as ignorance.

The following letter from Artic, Wash., (we withhold the writer's name), which has been with difficulty deciphered, is a fair sample, and answers itself:

Artic, Wash. 4-11, 1893.

with dimiculty decipinered, is a fair sample, and answers itself:

Artic, Wash. 4—11, 1893.

sirs it is quite evident to me that your advertisement as to the prise storys is a fraud, several have said to me that the poorest story generally takes the best prise, & in reading them I myself have found it to be so, that in its self is sufficient proof, you try to induce People to subscribe in order that they may write & all you have to do is to decline their storys. I thought as much from the first, my story if printed would have caused a greater desire to read your paper than any thing you have yet printed. I have written & read to many storys not to know that much, besides I red it too several good judges before I sent it, you will not be likely to get any more subscribers from this locality.

While there is no law that forbids a man, in

more subscribers from this locality.

Yours truly,

While there is no law that forbids a man, in the language of Shakespeare, to write himself down an ass, if he likes it, there is also no law that compels us to inflict upon the readers of Comfort silly and ill-written stories to satisfy the self-love of men and women who wish to undertake fiction before they can spell, or know the simplest law of grammar. In the short letter above quoted there are more than a baker's dozen of gross prors, such as a school boy should not make.

Comfort offers a reward of \$10,000 to anyone who can prove that its offer is not perfectly genuine in every respect.

The following specimens of the responses received in acknowledgment of money paid for prize stories speak for themselves:

Stoughton, Wis., 25th March, 1893. Publishers of Comfort:—Your check for \$25, in payment of prize awarded to my story "Planting a Baby," just at hand. Thank you.

I will speak a good word for Comfort whenever the opportunity offers.

Very respectfully, Alwin B. Jovenil.

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 5, 1892. Your check for \$20 received. Many thanks. I am pleased that my story won the first of the Nutshell prizes, and I feel an increased interest in Comfort, and hope to manifest that interest in a substantial manner. With best wishes. Yours 'ruly,

Mrs. W. Leslie Collins.

Jersey City, N. J., Nov. 26, 1892. Received of the Gannett & Morse Concern \$15 for "The Dominie's

Jersey City, N. J., Nov. 26, 1892. Received of the Gannett & Morse Concern \$15 for "The Dominie's Story," second prize Nutshell Story Club. Mrs. G. B. KEMP.

Mrs. G. B. Kemp.

Boston, Mass., Feb. 9, 1893. Received from the ublishers of Comfort \$25 in payment for "The Story of Tommy Stringer," which was awarded first prize in the Nutshell tory Club competition.

ELIZA BALLOU.

ARE YOU HAPPY?

The man or woman who is profitably employed is generally happy. If you are not happy it may be because you have not found your proper work. We earnestly urge all such persons to write to B. F. Johnson & Co., Richmond, Va., and they can show you a work in which you can be happily and profitably employed.

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OR SALE.—An established all cash whole-sale Catalogue business. A good thing. Cash required, \$10.000. Box 65, Niagara Falls, Canada.

FOR SALE.—An established all cash wholestwo sons. As we approached the spot I yelled, "They are in that old church over the two sons stopped as if shot.

"Come on," I cried imploringly, as the old man joined us, wheeling like a race horse from over-exertion and bronchial trouble combined. "They are in that church, I tell yeu, and I heard one man give Jack just ten minutes to make his peace with Heaven!"

"It's a darned sell, pa," said the older son. "The fellers are practicin' iur a school exhibition in thar, and are jest playin' at killin'. Our Jack don't belong to it, at all."

The old man seemirgly grasped the whole situation in a moment, and the look he gave me combined with the nervous manner in which he fingered the trigger son that needs a helping hand.

W.E.Skinner, 325 Washington St.Boston, Mass



HAVE been asked to tell Comfort readers what I know about housekeeping. The subject is an inexhaustible one, and it sometimes seems to me that women treat it too lightly. I fancy I hear a chorus of voices exclaiming, "Treat it lightly." It is the burden and trial of my life!" Exactly so, dear friend, and will continue to be until you reduce it to a system,

actly so, dear friend, and will continue to be until you reduce it to a system, and thus lessen your burdens by one-half.

It is to help you to do this that Comform issues the se monthly papers from women whose experience and whose study into the domestic problem give them reason to believe they have something helpful to say. Comform, as you know, enters over twelve hundred thousand homes. It goes all over this vast land.. In localities so wide apart methods of housekeeping differ, no doubt, in some minor details, but the essentials are the same. Wherever there are homes there are meals to be got, usually to be gone through with, and the reader of Comform, whether her home is in the North, the South, the East, or the West, cannot fail to find something in these "Household Hints" that will apply to her particular case.

If I have one special hobby in housekeeping above

East, or the west, chandt that to that something in these "Household Hints" that will apply to her particular case.

If I have one special hobby in housekeeping above another, one thing I lay more stress upon than anything else, it is to have my family furnished with a pleasing variety in good bread. Bread is called the "staff of life"; but in too many households it is but a broken reed. It is astonishing what some women let pass in their families for good bread. Bread may be white and light, and yet not be good bread. If it has stood so long rising that the sweetness has all gone out of it it is not good bread. If it is very spongey, and dry as sawdust, it is not good bread. If the oven is too hot and the crust has been formed before the inside of the loaf had a chance to bake properly it is not good bread. If you can take up a little piece of the inside of the loaf and roll it up into a dough ball in your fingers it is not good bread.

I find, however, that people's ideas about good bread differ widely. One likes it a little slack baked; asother would have it done brown. One likes it moist; another likes it very dry. One mixes it with milk; another with water. One prefers yeast; another baking powder. There is no accounting for tastes, and I suppose it is fortunate we don't all think alike. It has been a matter of interest to me to collect from friends whom I consider excellent house keepers their favorite recipes for bread, muffins, etc., and compare them with my own. In this article I will give, as far as space will allow, some valuable bread recipes out of which, I am sure, every puzzled housekeeper can find something suited to the taste of her own household.

The first place, do you make your own yeast?

old.

In the first place, do you make your own yeast?
Where the Vienna or the Fleischman yeast cakes are
recurable that seems an unnecessary trouble, but
or those women who are out of the way of these coneniences, or who prefer home-made yeast, the folowing well-tested recipe will be found simple and
autistatory.

reniences, or who prefer home-made yeast, the following well-tested recipe will be found simple and satisfactory.

Two good-sized raw potatoes, peeled; one heaping teaspoonful of dried hops; one quart of cold water; one tablespoonful of flour; one even tablespoonful of salt; the same of sugar; one cup of yeast, or one yeast cake. Boil the water, hops, and potatoes until the latter are very soft, then strain over the sait, flour and sugar. Stir until perfectly smooth, and when lukewarm add the yeast and let it stand in a warm place until well risen. Some housekeepers think the yeast is stronger if it is stirred down three or four tight in glass jars or stone jugs.

There is a little joke which has been circulated to that extent it has become extremely if a ckneyed—thread bare, in fact—about the unhappy wife whose husband is always referring to his mother's cooking, with uncomplimentary reflections on that of his wife.

COVERED BREAD BOWL. In our family I have rather reversed this, and, taking the bull by the horns, it is I who complain that nothing tastes as good at home as it does at my mother-in-law's table. Several years ago I got into an extreme state of disagrat over the bread that was made in our own

good at home as it does at my mother-in-law's table. Several years ago I got into an extreme state of disgust over the bread that was made in our own kitchen, and I announced my determination to go to my husband's mother and find out how her bread was made. I went; I saw; I conquered the difficulty; and for six months or more I made the bread with my own hands after the recipe she gave me, and never once did I fail to have perfect bread. This is the rule I followed:

for six months of more I made the bread with my own hands after the recipe she gave me, and never once did I fail to have perfect bread. This is the rule I followed:

Dissolve one-third of a two cent yeast cake in one-half cup of lukewarm water; measure out two quarts of flour; sift into a bread bowl or pan a good three pints of it; stir into this one even teaspoonful of salt, one tablespoonful of granulated sugar, then rub in with the hands one heaping tablespoonful of lard, costolene, or butter. When the yeast is dissolved pour it into the middle of the flour. Have ready a pitcher of water, lukewarm in winter, and in hot weather just the chill off, and stir this gradually into the flour with the yeast, using a strong, long-handled iron spoon, until the dough is of right consistency to use the hands. Have ready in the flour sister, which should be set on a plate, the remaining flour and sift a little on the board. Turn out the bread on the board and knead, using the flour in the sifter to keep it from sticking. Knead at least fifteen minutes, then put back into the bread bowl. Cover with severar thicknesses of cloth, unless you are so fortunate as to own one of those convenient bread bowls with perforated cover which protect the dough rrom dust, keep it from getting hard and dry on top, or forming a crust while it is rising, and are very much cleaner and neater than the bread cloths which press upon the top of the dough and have to be scraped of after using. If one cannot buy the regular bread bowl in use, and make a dozen holes around the top of it to give the needed ventilation.

And in this connection let me speak of another useful article one need not go to the expense of buying if there is some member of the family with a talent for home carpentry. Every housekeeper ought to own a wooden bread plate. In many families the mistress of the house prefers to cut new bread on the table as it is wanted (which is indeed the only right way to do), thus saving an acculumation of dry slices of bread. These plates are not only useful, but ornamental. They are large enough to cut the loaf on comfortably and they are handsomely bordered, sometimes with a conventional figure in carved work, sometimes with a motto carved out in the wood, such as, "The Staff of Life," "Waste not, Want not," "Cut and Come Again," Half a Loaf is Better than no Bread," "Give us this Day our Daily Bread," etc.

But this is a digression from our perfect breadmaking. The work at night is not, by any means, the most particular part of it. You must look after it betimes in the morning, and get it ready for, the second rising. If you are so hurried you cannot attend to it as soon as you come down stairs, and it has risen to the top of the pan, cut it down, and let it rise in the pan again. Remember that after bread has well risen it loses sweetness and flavor by standing. When ready to mould it into loaves, before breakfast if possible, turn it out again on the board and knead for ten or fifteen minutes. It also improves it very much to roll out long and chop it with the meat chopper several times. If more flour is needed there will be enough left in the flour sifter, but do not use any more than is necessary. Have ready one shallow pan and two deep ones. Make small rolls or biscuits to fill the shallow pan, and divide the remainder of the dough into halves, making two loaves. Let them all rise again until light, then bake at least three quarters of an hour for the loaves, and half an hour for the biscuits.

When the bread is first put into the oven the heat should not be greatest but should increase for about ten minutes, re

Be sure it is done before you take it out. It should separate from the sides of the pan, and be a delicate brown all over. Set it on wire sieves to cool so that there will be a circulation of air all around it. Do not cover it, and do not set it away until it is thoroughly cold.





to rise in a warm place, and it ought to be light in two hours in summer and four rule makes very nice tear rolls.

When risen to twice its original size cut down, knead, and put into pans as in the preceding recipe. This rule makes very nice tear rolls.

Besides the man who is allways complaining that nothing now is equal to what his mother's cooking used to be, there are those who go farther back into the years and declare that it was in their grand mother's day only that women knew hours in summer and four the years and declare that it was in their grand mother's day only that women knew who cook. I heard the other day a gray-haired man-lamenting the youthful appetite added something to the flavor, but however that may be, no doubt there were good cooks in those days whose greatest in the flavor, but however that may be, no doubt there were good cooks in the cold family recipes which were handed to me, you will appetite added something to the flavor, but however that may be, no doubt there were good cooks in those old family recipes which were handed to me, you for the old fashioned "Thind Bready," as it was made by grandmother noted for her excellent cooking. This is the rule:

All you with age, and amongst them was a recipe for the old fashioned "Thind Bready," as it was made by grandmother noted for her excellent cooking. This is the rule:

All you will be a sait; one cups of white flour; one teaspoonful of sult; one cup of yeast (or one-half yeast cake dissolved in a small cup of luke-warm water); one quart of lukewarm water. Put the rye and the white flour sifted into a mixing bowl; stir in the salt, sugar, and two teaspoonful of surface will be well as the proper will be well as the proper will be yeard into the center and add the water gradually, mixing thoroughly. Rise over night. In the morning smeal, and they the proper will be gin with the beverange that to many people is the important feature of the morning's meal—coffee. If you will be you will be

the water and the back of the stove, where the water cannot dry away, all night. They will then finish cooking in twenty minutes or half an hour before breakfast.

A plate of the control of the control

the water cannot dry away, all night. They water cannot finish cooking in twenty minutes or half an hour before breakfast.

A plate of stelle bread, both white and graham, or rye, should always be in readiness for the breakfast table, toasted and buttered if the family prefer it so, also a plate of delicious light muffins, rolls, or gems; and those latter should be varied frequently. There is no need of treating the family to the same recipe four or five times in the week; however good it may be it will grow monotonous in time. Let me tell you of two or three kinds of muffins you can have this month, and perhaps next month will bring fresh suggestions. This one is a favorite in our family, and I named it DELICATE MUFFINS.

One egg, one cup of milk, one tablespoonful of shortening, one even teaspoonful of salt, two heaping tablespoonfuls of Indian meal, one cup and two-thirds of four, two teaspoonfuls on the heaping, of baking powder. Bake in buttered muffin pans in a quick oven. The muffin pans should be only half filled.

Strawberries are to be had almost everywhere in the month of June and here is a delightful treat for the family.

Strawherry Muffins:—Sift two heaping tea-

oven. The muffin pans should be only half filled. Strawberries are to be had almost everywhere in the month of June and here is a delightful treat for the family.

Strawberrey Muffins:—Sift two heaping teaspoonfuls of baking powder into one quart of flour; add an even teaspoonful of salt; cream one heaping tablespoonful of butter with the same of sugar; add to this the beaten yolks of three eggs, and two cups of sweet milk; beat in the flour, and lastly the beaten whites of the eggs. Bake in muffin rings in a hot oven. When done split, butter, and fill with sweetened strawberries. If the berries are sour wash, cover with sugar, and let them stand an hour or two before using.

This same recipe may also be used for Strawberres. Shortcake, and makes a very delicious dessert. The best tin to use for this purpose that I have ever seen is the "Perfection Cake Tin," made by the Richardson Manufacturing Co., Bath, N. Y. All housekeepers know the importance, and oftentimes the difficulty of getting a very light cake out of the pan in good condition. In this new and bright invention you have simply to set your pan, when you take it from the oven, on top of a tumbler or bowl, and the rim drops down on the table, leaving your cake on the bottom of the pan, from which it can be easily removed without breaking. With this removable bottom to a pan there is no more trouble about digging out a cake with a knife, and spoiling the edges of it. These tins are cheap and are easily obtainable as they may be sent by mail.

Another variety for breakfast is RYE SHORTCAKE. For this take one cup of white flour, and one cup of rye meal, two teaspoonful of baking powder, one tablespoonful of sugar, one tablespoonful of sugar, one tablespoonful of sugar, one tablespoonful of one pan to make a dough that can easily be rolled out. Mix well together, roll out half an inch thick, cut into rounds, and bake in a hot oven. When baked split open and butter, or pour over real cream if you have it, or a cream made of one pint of milk, one tablespoonf



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what it promises?

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SAPOLI



Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.

\$100.00 IN CASH PRIZES \$100.00

The publishers take pleasure in announcing that in order to increase the common interest in this department, and to develop the inventive power and originality of Comport readers, they offer the following Cash prizes:

1st. A Cash prize of TWENTY DOLLARS (\$20) will be given for the best original and practical suggestion for use in this department.

2nd. A Cash prize of PIFFEEN DOLLARS (\$15) will be given for the Second best suggestion in the same line.

3rd. A Cash prize of ten dollars (\$10) for the next best.

h. A Cash prize of seven dollars and fifty cents

(\$7.50) for the next.

5th. A Cash prize of five dollars (\$5) for the next.

5th. A Cash prize of three dollars (\$3) for the next.

5th. A Cash prize of three dollars (\$3) for the next.

7th. Ten Cash prizes of two dollars (\$2) each for the next ten and

8th. Twenty Cash prizes of one dollar (\$1) each for the next twenty, making 36 prizes in all to be given for such suggestion as rank in the above order of merit.

CONDITIONS.

Competitors must be yearly paid-up subscribers to Competitors must be yearly paid-up subscribers to Comport; and in addition must send at least one new yearly subscriber, with twenty-five cents, the price of one year's subscription to Comport for each new subscriber so sent.

Letters must be received before September first; and awards will be published in the October issue.

Letters must be written plainly on one side of the paper only

Letters must be short, plain, explicit and contain no superfluous words.

No manuscript will be returned.

Descriptions may cover fancy articles, gifts for old and young, designs in drawn-work, embroidery, etc. Only such patterns of knitting and crocheting will be considered as are of exceptional merit and originality. Designs for internal and external decorations of the house may be entered in the contest, or suggestions on any topic contributing to home comfort or individual happiness. Illustrations of articles suggested, when possible, will add to the value of letters. Designs or suggestions must be absolutely original with the writer, never having appeared in print before, and not copied from books or other sources.

No communication will be considered that is not

print before, and not copied from books or other sources.

No communication will be considered that is not sufficiently stamped, and accompanied by the writer's full name and address.

The conditions are fully given here and consequently no letters of inquiry or of a personal nature will be answered.

Articles will be judged on merit alone.

Competition positively closes September first.

The publishers reserve the right to use any suggestions submitted which may not be awarded a prize.

All communications must be fully prepaid and addressed to Busy BEE, Care of Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

MONTH of June to many Comfort readers is suggestive of the little busy bees that sip honey from every flower; just as we, in this department, extract something valuable for our home stock of happiness from every suggestion that comes to our Busy Bee Column. So many excellent ideas are coming in response of the above offer, that it is not going to be possible to print nearly all. But I shall give names and addresses of persons sending in practical designs that cannot be used here, so that credit may be given them for their suggestions; and, also, that a system of exchange may be established among ourselves.

First, I am going to tell you how to fringe a round doyly. Doylies were never more popu-

MONTH of June to

tions; and, also, that a system of exchange may be established among ourselves.

First, I am going to tell you how to fringe a round doyly. Doylies were never more popular than now, and the round ones are especially pretty for many purposes. To make them, first mark upon fine, white linen a circle of the size desired, exclusive of the fringe, and a second the size of the completed round. Then with the machine, stitch, with very fine thread, completely round the inner line. Embroider in the center any design that you prefer—a monogram, a bird or a flower. Then cut the linen in the outer line and draw out the threads, beginning with the one nearest the stitched line, till you have reached the edge of the linen at all four points of the circle, when you will find four triangles formed, as the diagram shows. Pull the threads in each of these and with your needle adjust the fringe so formed till a perfect round is obtained Then buttonhole over the stitched line, and, if necessary, even off the fringe with the scissors.



ROUND DOYLIES

China-painting was never more popular than at present. One of the prettiest new things in this line is a tea and toast plate. This has an oblong extension at one side—as in our illustration—in which there is a slight hollow exactly fitting the bottom of a teacup. Plate and cup are painted to match, and make a delight-



Tul adjunct to the invalids of hamber, the cabinet of dain ty china, or for use at afternoon teas.

Drawn-work retains its hold upon the feminine fancy, and is greatly liked for toilet-covers, bureau and sideboard scarves, pillowshams, fine towels, afternoon teas-cloths, cushion-covers and handkerchiefs. I am pleased to present Comfort readers with a beautiful pattern this month, with full directions, for which we are indebted to Miss Emma E. Gilbert, 204 Jackson St., Vicksburg, Miss.

Draw the threads from your fabric, about ninety for the wide space and forty-two for the narrow. Then fasten the material to a frame, and knot the threads into strands at the top and bottom by the knot chain.

Outer row:—After the knot chain has been used to tie the strands, an even number of strands are knotted at the center, one or two knots being necessary to hold them firmly. When the knotting next to the center of the first cluster is made, the thread is carried to the lower portion of the lower half of the second cluster, each knot tying one strand. Next carry thread to center of upper half of fourth cluster, passing over the third (where the bow-knot is afterward made), then to the lower portion of the lower half of the fifth cluster, passing the sixth for the seventh, etc.

This knotting will be next to the center of the fan in every instance, but will be alternately above and below it.

The first three lines of knotting are made so that their threads will cross in the spaces, and the thread of the last line knots the center. When the knot is drawn, and the threads are smooth and even, darn under and over them till the web is made, and make the final knotting of the next fan.

Center row:—Place the needle under the first, and draw the needle through, etc.

In making the inner row, the threads are carried from one fan to the next, alternately above and below the center. The webs are made like these in the outer row.

The darning stitch is used in making the bow-knot. When one-half of the bow-knot is made, carry the thread



PATTERN FOR DRAWN-WORK.

The corners, which are called spider's webs, are made like the small webs. Double a long thread and knot the threads in the corner, and darn under and over them until the web is large enough, secure it with a knot stitch, and carry the thread to the fabric and knot.

As has been said, we do not intend to use crochet patterns unless they are very unique and original. The accompanying illustration of Grecian antique lace, however, we are sure will be welcome. Miss Rose Hales of Perrin, Clinton Co., Mo., furnishes it with the following directions:

(Meaningle) of abbreviations: Ch. chain; st.

(Meaning' of abbreviations: Ch, chain: st, stitch; dc, double crochet; sc, single crochet; o, open, chain two, skip two, throw thread over hook and take up third chain. Make a chain of 107 stitches.)

of 107 stitches.)

1st row: 1 dc in 8th st of ch, 3 dc in next 3 sts, ch 2, skip 2, 4 dc in next 4 sts, ch 2, skip 2, 1 dc in next st, ch 2, skip 2, 1 dc in next st, ch 2, skip 2, 1 dc in next st, ch 2, skip 2, 1 dc in next st, * make 6 more open like between *, 3 dc in next 3 sts, 7 0, 3 dc in next 3 sts, ch 2, skip 2, 1 dc in next 4 stc, ch 2, skip 2, 1 dc in next 4 stc, ch 2, skip 2, 1 dc in next st ch 2, skip 2, 4 dc in next 4 sts, ch 2, skip 2, 1 dc in next st urn.

2nd row: Ch 5, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 2nd o, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, 6 o, 10 dc, 6 o, 3 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in next och 2, 4 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 1 st och 2, 4 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 1 st och 2, 4 d

3rd row: Ch 5, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, dc in first dc, ch 2, 1 dc in last dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, 5 o, 7 dc, ch 2, 7 dc, 5 o, 3 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 1 dc in first dc, ch 2, 1 dc in last dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 3 dst of ch, turn.

4th row: Ch 5, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 16 dc, 4 o, 7 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in o, ch 2, 7 dc, 4 o, 3 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 16 dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 3 rd st of ch, turn.

5th row: Ch 5, 4 dc in 4 dc, 3 o, 3 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, 3 o, 6 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 0, ch 2, 4 dc in 0, ch 2, 7 dc, 3 o, 3 dc in 3 dc, 3 o, 3 dc in 3 dc. ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 3rd st of ch, turn.

6th row: Ch 5, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 0, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, 2 0, 6 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 0, ch 2, 4 dc in 0, ch 2, 4 dc in 0, ch 2, 7 dc, 2 0, 3 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 0, ch 2, 4 dc in 0, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 3 dc in 3 dc, th 2 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 3 dc st of ch, turn.

7th row: Ch 5, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, 3 o, 3 dc in 3 dc, 3 o, 6 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in o, ch 2, 4 dc in o, ch 2, 7 dc, 3 o, 3 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, 3 o, 3 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 3rd st of ch, turn. 8th row: Ch 5, 16 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, 4 o, 6 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in c, ch 2, 7 dc, 4 o, 15 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st of ch, turn.

9th row: Ch 5, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, 3 o, 3 dc in 3 dc, 5 o, 6 dc, ch 2, 7 dc, 5 o, 3 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, 3 o, 3 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 3 ds t of ch, turn.

10 3d st of ch, turn.

10 th row: Ch 5, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 0, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, 6 0, 10 dc, 6 0, 3 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 0, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st ch, turn.

11 th row: Ch 5, 4 dc in 4 dc, 3 0, 3 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, 7 0, 4 dc, 7 0, 3 dc in 3 dc, 3 0, 3 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, 6 ch 2, 1 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 3 ds st of ch, turn. ch. turn.

12th row: Ch 5, 4 dc in 4 dc, ch 2, 16 dc, 5 o, 3 dc in 0, 3 o, 3 dc in 0, 5 o, 3 dc in 3 dc, ch 2, 16 dc, ch 2, 1 dc in 3d st of ch, commence scallop.

1st row: 3 dc in last o, ch 1, 3 dc in same place, chain 5, skip 3 o, 3 dc in o, ch 5, 3 dc in next o, ch 5, 1 sc in end of ch. ch 5, 1 sc in end of ch.

2nd row: 8
dc and 1 scin
ch 5. sitel! in
shell, ch 5, 12
dc in centre
ch 5, ch 8,
shell in shell.
3rd row:
Ch 5, shell in
shell, ch 5, 11
dc in 12 dc,
ch 5, shell in
shell, ch 5,
fasten in end
of sec on d
shell.
4th row: 8
dc and 1 scin
ch 5, shell in
shell, ch 5, 10
dc in 11 dc,
ch 5, shell in
shell, ch 5, 10
dc in 11 dc,
ch 5, shell in
shell, ch 5,
catch in end
of 4th shell.
6th row: 8
dc and 1 scin
ch 5, shell in
shell, ch 5,

ch 5, 8 9 dc, ch nell in , ch 5. row: in shell,

7th row; shell in shell, ch 5, 7dc in 8 dc, ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5, 7dc in 8 dc, ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5, catch in end of 6th shell.

Sth row: 8 dc and 1 ·sc in ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5, 6 dc in 7 dc, ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5.

9th row: Shell in shell, ch 5, 5 dc in 6 dc, ch 5, shell in shell, catch in end of the 8th shell.

10th row: 8 dc and 1 ·sc in ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5, 3 dc in 4 dc, ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5, 3 dc in 4 dc, ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5, 2 dc in 3 dc, ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5, 2 dc in 3 dc, ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5, 2 dc in 3 dc, ch 5, shell in shell, ch 5, shell in she

turn.
15th row: Ch 5, 4 de in 4 de, ch 2, 4 de in 4 de, 3 o, 4 de in 4 de, 2 o, 9 de, ch 2, 4 de, ch 2, 4 de, ch 2, 10 de, 2 o, 3 de in 3 de, ch 2, 4 de in 4 de, 3 o, 3 de in 3 de, ch 2, 1 de in 3 rd st of ch, turn.
16th row: Ch 5, 16 de, ch 2, 4 de in 4 de, 3 o, 3 de, ch 2, 4 de,

turn.
17th row: Ch 5, 4 de in 4 de, ch 2, 4 de, 3 o, 3 de in 3 de, 6 o, 3 de, ch 2, 4 de, 6 o, 4 de in 4 de, ch 2, 4 de, 3 o, 3 de in 3 de, ch 2, 1 de in 3 rd st of ch,

in 3 de, 6 o, 3 de, ch 2, 4 de, 6 o, 4 de in 4 de, ch 2, 4 de, 3 o, 3 de in 3 de, ch 2, 1 de in 3rd st of ch, turn.

18th row: Ch 5, 4 de in 4 de, ch 2, 4 de in 0, ch 2, 4 de in 4 de, ch 2, 4 de in 0, ch 2, 1 de in 3rd st of ch, turn.

20th row: Ch 5, 4 de in 3 de, ch 2, 16 de, 5 0, 6 de, ch 2, 7 de, 5 0, 3 de in 3 de, ch 2, 1 de in 3rd st of ch, turn.

21st row: Ch 5, 4 de in 4 de, 3 0, 3 de in 3 de, ch 2, 4 de in 4 de, 5 0, 6 de, ch 2, 7 de, 5 0, 3 de in 3 de, ch 2, 4 de in 3 de, ch 2, 4 de in 4 de, 5 0, 6 de, ch 2, 1 de in 3rd st of ch.

22nd row: Ch 5, 4 de in 4 de, ch 2, 4 de in 4 de, ch 2, 1 de in 3rd st of ch.

27nd row: Ch 5, 4 de in 4 de, ch 2, 4 de in 4 de, ch 2, 1 de in 3rd st of ch.

27nd row: Ch 5, 5 de in 3 de, ch 2, 4 de in 4 de, ch 2, 1 de in 3rd st of ch.

30, 3 de in 3 de, 5 0, 3 de in 3 de, 5 0, 3 de in 3 de, 3 0, 3 de in 3 de, 5 0, 3 de in 3 de, 6 0, 2 4 de in 4 de, ch 2, 4 de in 4 de, ch 2

Mrs. Wm. M. McDonald, 56 West Wooster St., Danbury, Conn., sends a pattern for wide diamond spider-web lace, in crochet, that is fully as handsome as the pattern given above.

Miss Sallie E. Douglas, Rutledge, Scotland Co., Mo., has several handsome patterns in knit and crocheted lace and macrame work.

Miss Annie Church, Lawrence, Nickoll's Co., Neb., sends a crocheted white bed-spread in squares.

Mrs. George Provencal, Newport, Vt.,—a Shut-In—has several beautiful knit-lace patterns. Mrs. Emma E. Smith, Millville, Shasta Co., Cal., has a pretty design for a baby's sack in crazy stitch, and also patterns for edging.

All of these would have been printed, understand, if we had room enough.

stand, if we had room enough.

Now that the World's Fair is open, I suppose every Busy Bee will make an effort to go. There are some excellent and practical suggestions in the fashion department this month, in regard to outfits, and traveling dress, which I hope every woman will read. It is our aim to make each department of Comfort the most helpful, valuable and practical of its kind. Read about the World's Fair travelling dress, and see if you do not think so.

Busy Bee.

ST. VITUS DANCE. One bottle Dr.M.M. Fenner's Speci-fic always cures. Circular with cures. Fredonia, N.Y.



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free. (Mention this paper.)
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THEY WERE STARVING THE BABY.



My baby weighed 8 pounds at birth, 15 pounds when three months old, and 12 pounds when four months. I think we were starving it, for no food agreed with it. Dr. Hodgdon of Dedham, who was last called in, recommended lactated food,

and in two months the little one gained nine

pounds, all by using lactated food.

I understand that Wells, Richardson & Co.,
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will send a regular-sized package free to any
mother who writes for it. No mother can
afford to go through the summer months, so dangerous to children, without lactated food which physicians tell me is known to them as the food that saves babies' lives. MRS.G. K. D. 23 Bromfield St., Boston, Mass.

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THE MISSING FINGER.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY ZACK Z. ZOXZY.

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HAVE a strange story to tell; and I tell it without comment, as, indeed, I needs must, having none to offer.

One summer I spent my vacation at a little city on the western shore of Lake Michigan. It was past midnight when I arrived at my destination. The rain was falling, the wind blowing, and the night intensely dark; yet the streets of the city were crowded and the hotel where I stopped was filled with a throng of excited men, women, and children. Evidently some terrible thing had occurred which had stirred the feelings and passions of the people to their deepest depths.

I was not kept long in suspense. George Strong, one of the city's most valued young men, had disappeared mysteriously and under circumstances that made foul play almost certain. To add, if possible, to the mystery and terribleness of the affair, he was to have been married at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of the following day.

George Strong was a stranger to me; yet, from

clied men, women, and children. Evidently so, and children. Evidently so, and most corrible thing, had occording the feelings, and passing of the people to their deepeat of the people to the people to the people to their deepeat of the people to the people to their deepeat of the people to the people to their deepeat of the people to their deepeat of the people to the people to the people to their deepeat of the people to the people

that I shudder even now to recall them. One, I shall never forget. I seemed to see standing in the open doorway of my room the form of George Strong, beck-oning me as if it wished me to follow it. I had never seen George Strong; yet, somehow, I at once recognized the form as his. The face was ghastly pale a n d streaked with blood. The eyes were sunken and fixed and stared into mine,

form looked just as if it had arisen from a watery grave.

All this appeared with the vividness of a reality. My soul seemed striving to respond to the invitation of the beckoning hand. I arose up in bed, as if to obey, when the act awakened me, and I sank back slivering with horror.

This vision drove all sleep from my eyes and filled me with dread. I arose but could not get rid of the impression which it had made. I no longer saw the form of George Strong; but I still felt the shadowy hand beckoning me on. An irresistible impulse took possession of me to follow whither the hand seemed to beckon; and, not knowing or thinking what I did, I yielded and went out into the stillness of the early morning.

I have but an indistinct remembrance of how the external world looked on that morning. The moon

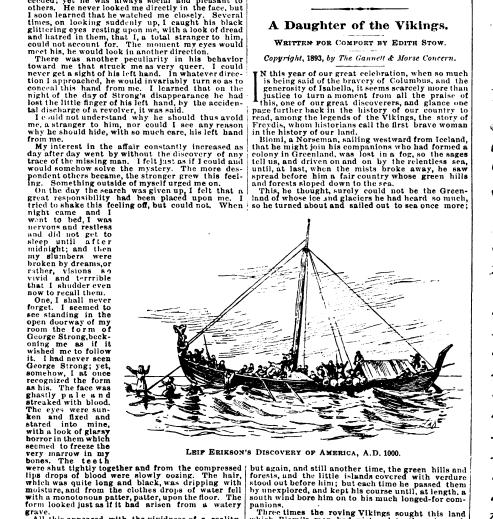
itself unbidden before my eyes. May I never be called to look upon its like again.

I left a float to mark the position of the body and then hastened back to the city to secure assistance. Three policemen made themselves ready and returned with me to the spot. The body was still there. Together we raised it from the water and laid it in the bottom of the boat. It was the body of George Strong.

Two large stones were fastened to the corpse. One of these stones was tied up in the murdered man's coat and fastened around his neck by means of the sleeves. The knot in which the sleeves were tied came directly under the chin; so that, when we untied it, the lower jaw fell down and the mouth opened. The moment the mouth came open the ghastly relic of a little finger, on which was a diamond ring, fell out.

out.

As soon as one of the policemen saw the ring, he cried out: "My God, that is Harry Wilson's ring! I have often seen it upon his finger." On examining the finger, we found that it belonged to the left hand. Horrified, we looked at each other. Only one conclusion was possible! Harry Wilson was the murderer!



south wind bore him on to his much longed-for companions.

Three times the roving Vikings sought this land which Blomi's men had pictured to them in such glowing colors, and 'hree times they returned with their boats laden heavily with fragrant grapes and great trees of which to build their ships; and telling of the broad fields and the little lake in this new found land, along whose shores they had built their huts, called in the legends "Leifs budir," or "Leif's booths."

A fourth time an expedition was formed, headed now by a rich Viking named Karlsefur. It was much larger than any of its predecessors, for he brought with him a colony of sixty men and five women, among whom was Freydis, daughter of Erik the Red.

They had with them a boat laden with cattle and provision, as their stay was to be a long one. Nearing the shore they found a place where a river ran out from the land, and through a lake into the sea.

I have but an indistinct remembrance of how the external world looked on that morning. The moon hung low in the western horizon, the eastern heavens were just beginning to lighten with approaching day, and the low murmurings of the lake fell like a sad dirge upon my cars. All things else were still.

These things I noticed indistinctly, as I walked, like one in a dream, through the streets of the sleeping city and down to the lake shore, where I found a small boat apparently awaiting me. Without even wondering how the boat came there, I shoved it off, sprang into it, seized the oars and began to row. Other hands, and colder hands than mine, seemed to grasp the oars also. They did the steering and I did the rowing. Over the surface of the cold blue waters the boat glided swiftly on its way.

Suddenly, I stopped rowing and, impelled by some unseen force, looked over the side of the boat down into the cool depths below me, shuddering as I did so.

The sight I then saw did not surprise me; it was just what I expected; but the impression which it made upon me death only can efface. There, in the clear depths below, lying on a sand-bank, with its face turned toward me, was the body of a min, the same in form and features that I had seen in my vision. At this moment, the mysterious something, not seen but felt, which had guided me so far, vanished, and I awoke as from a dream.

Dream or not, I know not what it was, but I do know that the face looking up at me through the water was real enough and terrible enough to shake the strongest nerves. I can never forpet it. Awake or asleep, that ghastly countenance will often thrust

She stepped out from her hiding place with all the majesty of her great deed, and stopped the fleeing Norsemen with her reproaches, urging them on to battle.

"Why do you run before these miserable wratches?" she cried. "I thought you would cast them down before you like beasts of the field. Had I a weapon, I, a woman, could fight them better than any of you!"

a woman, could fight them better than any of you!"
With these words she stooped and picked up a
sword that lay beside one of her dead friends and led
them on to battle. Over the plains where the wild
wheat grew, through the forests, and along the sandy
shore, they pursued the bleeding, fainting natives until the Indians had pushed their little skin boats far
out into the waves.

In the spring they returned to Greenland, but now
one of their number was Sonorri, who is said to have
been the first child born of European parents on our
shore.

one of their numor, the been the first child born of European parents on our shore.

Here the legends leave us, saying only, "nothing further was heard of the new land save as a thing of the past." It is sad that history is able to tell us no more of so courageous a woman as Freydis, for we now know that her whole career must have been a fitting one for so brave an act; but as the story stands we all feel proud of the nobility and courage of the first brave woman in the history of America.

A VALUABLE SECRET.

No woman, married or single, should neglect to send to The Tokene Company, 232 Devonshire Street, Boston, Mass., for a copy of the Tokene Booklet, issued for free presentation exclusively to women. Aside from being the most artistic pamphlet ever Aside from being the most artistic pamphiet ever gotten up in America—its cover is lithographed in no less than twelve colors—it treats in a straightforward, common-sense manner, of an entirely new discovery which cannot but prove a boon to the sex. It has absolutely nothing in common with patent medicines or novelty schemes, and the woman who fails to read it misses a secret which may bring her boundless happiness, and even save her life.

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now know that her whole career must have been a fitting one for so brave an act; but as the story stands we all feel proud of the nobility and courage of the first brave woman in the history of America.

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A HARD NUT TO CRACK!

A FALL RIVER MAN FINDS A FORTUNE!!

From the Fall River. Mass., News.

Editor News :- I read with deep interest in your paper of May 6th the facts regarding the marvellous recovery of a well known citizen of this city, and while as you say the experience of Mr Bostock seems like a miracle, I personally know that his is only one of many cases where Orien has produced precisely the same astonishing sesults. About a year ago I was so sick a man that I was under the case of physicians and my life was at one time despaired of I was afflicted with what the medical profession call "tobacco heart" and my pulse was so Erregular as to cause me the greatest distress and alarne In addition to this I was troubled with indigestion in its worst form, my stomach being so out of tone that almost everything I ate distressed me and my back was so weak that the least exertion caused me intense pain. I also suffered greatly from nervousness. As I desired no benefit from local physicians, I consulted doctors of Boston whose medicines I also took without obtaining relief, and I grew constantly worse It was at this stage that my attention was called to Oxien and I de cided to give it atrial. I took one tablet after each meal, and after I had used one of the Grant boxes, costing one dollar, I was a perfectly well man. I was rid of my nervousness and my heart beats as strong and regular as it did twenty years ago I can eat a good square meal of any kind of food without feeling the slightest distress, have not a bodily ache or pain, and consider it a simple duty to say that Oxien brought me new strength and new life. John Slinn.

EDITOR'S NOTE. Mr. Slinn whose letter is printed above has been a resident of Fall River or over twenty-five years and is well-known in business circles.

The wonderful discovery which saved the life of Mr. John Slinn, who wrote the foregoing letter, is not a stimulant. It is not a tonic or medicine.

It is a FOOD FOR THE NERVES, BRAIN AN

IT GIVES NEW POWER, NEW STRENGTH TO THE WEAK, WEARY AND BROKEN DOWN. IT INFUSES NEW LIFE INTO THE HUMAN SYSTEM WRECKED BY OVERWORK, WORBY. IMPRUDENCE OR NEGLECT.

IT IS UNLIKE ANYTHING EVER BEFORE DISCOVERED OR INVENTED.

IT IS THE ONLY TRUE NOURISHMENT FOR STARVED NERVES, IMPOVERISHED BLOOD AND FAGGED BRAIN EVER DISCOVERED.

IT IS FREE FROM HARMFUL INGREDIENTS OF ANY KIND AND EVERY PACKAGE IS SOLD UNDER A CITY PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATE AND WRITTEN GUARANTEE. IT MAKES STRONG, HEALTHY, HAPPY MEN AND WOMEN OUT OF HOPELESS, BEDRIO

DEN WRECKS, WHOM DOCTORS HAVE GIVEN UP AS BEYOND RELIEF. IT ENABLES YOU TO MAKE A FORTUNE BY ACTING AS LOCAL AGENT FOR ITS SALE.

SOME AGENTS ARE ALREADY CLEARING THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS A YEAR. Write us at once for full particulars with pamphlet giving names of agents who are coining money selling Oxien. A sample of this wonderful Food for the Nerves will be sent free by mail for the next thirty days, to all who wish to test its marvellous life giving powers.

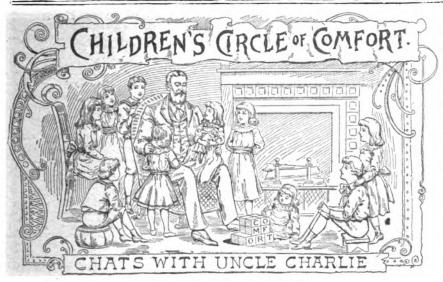
THE GIANT OXIE CO., 125 WILLOW ST., AUGUSTA, MAINE

P. S. We refer you to Ex-Mayor John W. Chase, Hon. J. H. Manley, A. M. Goddard, City Solicitor, freby Johnson, Cashler Granite National Bank, all of Augusta, and to any other public men of our section.

PRAY PUMP

To one man in each town if you become agent and send 10c. If you don't want agency send \$2. Circulars free. It sprays see, shrub, vin plant, lawn, street, garden, puts out fire, washes wagons, windows, ba boats, whitewash henhouse, control swarming bees, cattle syring throws water 60 ft.

A. SPEIRS, BOX C., NO. WINDHAM, MAINE.



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pounds make a ton?) or the Government wont buy the hemp. Then they take a piece of the rope and tar it, and put it to a strain of 3,200 pounds.

What do they tar it for, Uncle?

Because it sheds the water and so preserves the rope. It isn't so strong, but it lasts longer, and is better for some purposes. They are very particular about the rope in the Navy and have only the very best, for a break might cost many lives or do great damage.

Now, let us go down to the water's edge. See this great granite basin. with shelving sides like huge steps? That is the dry dock. It is 30 feet deep, 50 wide and 200 feet long. It is empty now, for the gates opening into the river are closed and the water is all pumped out. When they wish to repair a vessel below the water-line, they open the gates, admit the water, float the ship in, close the gates behind her. pump out the water slowly until the keel rests on the bottom, put in "shores" or props at the side, and when the dry-dock is pumped dry, the workmen can easily get at the ship's bottom.

Right across the river, in Boston, do you see that small church tower? Well, that is the one that Paul Revere watched so anxiously as he waited with his horse on the bank over here, and when the signal lights were hung out in the belfry he galloped off on "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere" about which Longfellow wrote his splendid poem. You must all read it again when you get home.

The other side of the dry dock, is a queer looking, great, black hulk, anchored a little way from shore. Only the lower masts are standing and the upper deck is covered over with a roof. Out of its port-holes point big, black, cannon muzzles. We want to go aboard, of course. There is a little flat-bottomed scow, or ferryboat, that runs to and from the shore, and a marine in uniform stands in the doorway.



stacks of muskets, every paddle and war club. kind that ever was used, I do believe.
See this queer cannon, 9 feet long, made out of wrought-iron by Chinamen. And it is a breech-loader too; that is, the powder is put in near the rear end, which shows that our breech loading idea isn't by any means a new invention, for this gun was captured on a Chinese pirate-junk many years ago, in the China Sea.
Here, is a sword used at the battle of Bunker Hill, and it looks as if it must have been roughly beaten out of a scythe-blade by a country blacksmith. It is not very pretty, but it did good service. But we must hurry out.



Stop a moment outside the museum and look at the plain tower with a square window near the top, which rises above the houses in Charlestown, not far from us. Do any of you recognize it? What, none? Why, children, that is Bunker Hill Monument, which marks the spot where the American farmers fought so travely with the British troops. There were but few houses here then, and where the Navy Yard is now, was nothing but flat salt marshes. Near here the British landed their men from boats, to march up the hill to the attack. Most of the ground has been filled in to the water's edge, and the Navy Yard covers about 80 acres. What's a Navy Yard for, Uncle? Why, it is a place to refit vessels and repair them.

What's a Navy Yard for, Uncle?
Why, it is a place to refit vessels and repair
them.
And is this the only Navy Yard?
Oh, no; there are others at Portsmouth, N.
H., Brooklyn, N. Y., Philadelphia, Pa., Washington, D. C., San Francisco, Cal., Norfolk, Va.
and Port Royal. In some of these yards they
are building new steel ships for our Navy and
they are much livelier places to visit.
See all these big cannons laying on the grass.
Are they loaded, Uncle?
No, Willie, and they never will be again.
They are mostly old cast-iron, smooth-bore,
muzzle-loading affairs, entirely two clumsy and
too slow for modern warfare. They are good
for nothing but old iron. Here are piles of
old-fashioned cannon balls to fit these goodfor-nothing old cannons, and further on are
old anchors, also worn out.
Come with me into this low, two-story granite
building. Be very careful not to touch anything.
My, isn't it long? Yes, it's almost like look-

Below the spar (or upper) deck, is the gun deck. In the Wabash a good many of the old cannon remain, with their muzzles poked out of the ports. They are nine-inch muzzle load-crs—that is, they throw a ball nine inches in diameter—but all are old-fashioned and would never be used in case of war. How low the ceiling is. You children can stand up straight, but your Uncle may knock his head against the great beams every minute.

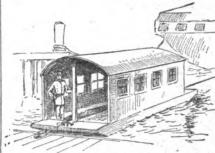
What did that man say, Uncle?

He says that in these wooden ships more men were killed by splinters of woodwork than by cannon balls or bursting shells. Whenever a shot struck it would send big chunks of wood and sharp, jagged splinters flying in all directions, injuring a great many. How many men might there be on this deck during a battle?

About 300 and as many more on the spar deck, just above, and out of the whole number, there would only be a very few, whose places were nearest the port-holes, who could see out to get any idea as to how the battle was going. Sometimes one of their own cannon would burst and spread death and destruction in the crowded space. It is different on the new steel ships. There are no splinters to fly, and there are fewer guns, and these are often separated by steel bulkheads, or placed farther apart.

Hark, do you hear that shrill but soft, twittering whistle, rising and falling like a bird-note?

note?
That's the Boatswain's Whistle. Doesn't it sound as loud as you expected?
"A-a-ll ba-a-ags awa-a-y."
What an awful voice! That was loud enough, at all events. See the sailors scurry to put away the clothes bags they had been overhaul-



The deck next below is the berth deck. There are no cannon here nor on any of the decks below this. The officers have state-rooms herewith bunks, for they don't sleep in hammocks. The hospital and the lock-up or "brig" are also here; the latter is a wooden cell, with the door bored full of small air-holes. The sailors eat on this deck. They are divided into squads called messes, and each mess has, a cook who looks after the "mess-gear," as the steel knives, and forks, and plates, and bowls, are called. The latter used to be of tin, but now are of iron covered with white enamel, looking almost like crockery. Below this there are two more decks, for storage rooms, water-tanks, powder magazines and coal bunkers. Ships going on long voyages have to carry many barrels of flour, hundreds of canned goods, tons of potatoes, meat and vegetables, and plenty of hard-tack. On the modern ships they carry a special apparatus that distills the sait out of the sea water, and makes it fit to drink. The sailors are divided into many different classes. There are gunners, signalmen, machinists, electricians, engineers, stokers, carpenters, sail-makers, able seamen, laudsmen, apprentices, lamptrimmers, cooks, magazine men, machinery offers, bakers, a surgeon, a preacher, and even a barber—see him up in that corner, shaving a man?

Good steady sailors who behave themselves and are allowed on

man?
Good steady sailors who behave themselves and are punctual in returning, are allowed on certain days to go ashore; those who are not reliable cannot go so often.



A PERENT

LICKES SELECT

THE FRIGATE WABASH.

This old black hulk is the Wabash, once a fine

wish to be once the second of the second of

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Dr. Shoop, Box A, Racine, Wis.

This old black hulk is the Wabash, once a fine wooden vessel, but now used as a "receiving ship" or station for officers and sailors while waiting for orders. There are about 175 men aboard, and they go through their various drills and duties just as though they were at sea. All of the sailors are dressed in their "togs," loose frocks and pants of white canvas, and little round-brimmed white hats. They do not wear their neat blue suits to lounge about in or do hard work. The upper deck is called the spar deck and has a long row of port-holes on each side; but the cannon have all been taken away, and the port-holes are neatly fitted with windows. Up near the "bow" or forward end, you see a queer old battered copper lantern hanging from a hook. It is the "smoking lantern" and when hung out is a signal that the sailors may smoke if they wish. Like everything else in the navy, this lantern is hung up and taken down promptly at a certain time each day. On a wide shelf along each side of the ship, are the men's rolled-up hammocks, each with the man's number stamped on it. Each hammock has a very thin mattress in it, and every morning they are rolled up neatly, and every morning they are rolled up neatly, and every night taken to the deck below, unrolled, and hung up on the hooks which are in the beams. A few years ago a woman in England insisted on helping a fainting man, whom everybody else thought to be drunk. She never saw him after his recovery, but he died a short time ago and left her seven hun-dred and fifty thousand dollars.

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The lucky stone for June is the agate, which, it is said, makes its wearer invincible in feats

of strength, en-sures long life, health and prosperity.

According to a famous astrologer, the lucky days for June are the 2nd, 5th, 6th, 10th, 11th, 15th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 25th, 26th and 30th. The unlucky days are the 1st,3rd, 4th. 9th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 16th, 21st,23rd, 24th, 27th and 28th.

The visitors to the World's Fair will fill their minds and empty their pockets. Their eyes will be kept busy day after day with the thousands of strange and beautiful exhibits, which will include everything from a Fiji soup bowl to a royal crown. Yet, these same visitors will want to hear from the folks at home, and to enable them to get their letters more quickly and easily, the United States has estabpost-office in the government building, with forty letter carriers and a complete equipment. The most convenient address to give the folks at home will be the "World's Fair Station, Chicago, Ill." This station must not. of course, be confounded with the regular Chicago post-office.

Peace on earth had a huge advertisement when tho navies of the world met in New York harbor the other day, fired salutes to each other, and

of the Columbian Exposition to do honor to

Besides the great "men of war," there were the Spanish caravels made exactly like those which first brought Columbus to the new world.

Tens of thousands of people flocked to New York to see the spectacle, which lasted three days. On the first day both sides of the North River were lined with bunting and hundreds of observation boats, which the patrol tugs, like policemen, hustled out of the way when the tro columns of warships steamed majestically into position. The following day President Cleveland, who is also admiral of the navy. steamed up between the lines in the presidential yacht Dolphin, and was greeted by the thunder of big guns. And the last day came the land parade, when the tars of the ten nations, representing three continents and both hemispheres, marched through the streets of the city. It was the first time since 1814 that the armed forces of foreign powers had set foot on our shores.

Tens of thousands of dollars worth of powder was burnt by the big fighting vessels to show

how peaceful they were. It was a spectacle of 36 miles across, and by using islands for the national friendliness such as had never been | piers, a cantilever bridge could be stretched seen before. Yet there was another side to the big event that reminds one of a farmer going out to milk a cow with a couple of six-shooters in his belt. Each nation sent only a few of its ships, and yet in the thirty-seven big steelarmored hulks about thirty million dollars had been spent to prepare for war. The hasty word of some king or minister would have set them all pouring shot into each other's sides, and the much boasted peace would have vanished like a

Columbia is proud of her navy, but she ought to be more proud that she carries not so many revolvers in her belt as the hard headed old monarchies across the water.

Americans who go to the World's Fair need not be surprised if they see along the water front vessels from all parts of the world. Al-though Chicago is in the center of the continent, it is in reality a sea-port for all except the largest ocean steamships.

It is about 28,000 miles around the earth, so that the city farthest away from a given point can only be 14,000 miles distant. If you go farther than this in one direction, you are nearer in the other. Calcutta is opposite Chicago on the other side of the world, and may be called its antipodes.

from the Western to the Eastern Hemisphere. The Russian government is building a railroad through Siberia which would connect with the one through Alaska, and when these plans are carried out a rich man can ride in his palace car from New York to Paris. A bridge over the Suez Canal would take him to Africa, and the proposed tunnel under the English Channel would enable him to reach London in the same easy fashion without the pangs of sea-sickness

This celebration year the American girl is to be even more conspicuous than ever. Already, whatever is social in the ceremonies of the Columbian celebration is absorbed by her, and, already, she is distinguishing herself to such an extent that papers like Harpers Weekly, for example, feel called upon to apologize for her, explain her, and exonerate her. Editorially speaking of the gaiety at the recent military and naval festivities at Old Point Comfort, the Weekly states that the American girls "have danced to the uttermost of their hearts' desire they have tied about their hats the ribbons of the ships of all nations, they have flirted in Russian, French, Italian, German, Spanish, Dutch, and real English, they have tried to teach the foreigner their own peculiar methods of speech, they have been courted,

ing more and more infatuated by a whirl of social life which unfits them for a domestic quiet, and in that fact the future prosperity of ome life is being sacrificed. We boast that the American girl knows how to take care of herself among men, but how many of them know how to take care of a house, a much more important thing.

We think altogether too much of the appearance of our women in public, altogether too little of the character necessary to perpetuate the peace and content of home life. We pardon all too easily her breaches of propriety because she is attractive, and are too ready to believe her-if she be not our own-innocent of evil intent, forgetting that no woman old enough to deliberately flirt, is young enough to be innocent of what she is doing. It is time to call a halt, for the American girl-over-indulged in every way-will, if not curbed, be indirectly reponsible for wrecking home life in this counry. The example of her popularity is had for all the world of women. For such women must make inadequate mothers. Yet let the fault be placed where it belongs-against the men who encourage them; for as long as the world lasts, the chief object of womanly women in life will be to please the other sex, so it will be men who fix the limits to which women may go and still

The American girl is unquestionably the most



States. There were thirty-seven war-ships with | tons can arrive at the Columbian Exposition in about 12,000 fighting men, and the admirals of about 60 days. It would sail through the Indian before the energing Ocean the Archian See then up the Red See and through the Suez Canal, then down the Mediterranean and out upon the Atlantic by the Strait of Gibraltar. Arriving in American waters, she would enter the Gulf of St. Lawrence, then steam up the St. Lawrence River, through the Lachine Canal at Montreal into Lake Ontario, and around Niagara Falls by the Welland Canal, then by Lake Erie, Lake St. Clair, Lake Huron, the Straits of Mackinaw and Lake Michigan, to the very doors of the big

OREAMED FOR COMFORT

It will be a trip rich in interesting sights, and, as the locks of the canals have been so enlarged during recent years as to hold vessels 250 feet long, with a draft of 14 feet, many European yachtsmen are now planning to make

If the fair had been held fifty years later, people from all parts of the world could have come to Chicago by rail. An exploring party, under Chief, Engineer Faulkner, is now making surveys in Alaska and have already reported to the New York and British Capitalists who sent them out that it is practicable to build an all rail line to Europe. Behring Strait is only

were reviewed by the President of the United | Starting at Calcutta, a steam vessel of 1,500 | feted, pursued with attentions-and misunderstood."

Any one who knows the American girl, and dure the preamble, but to the conclusion that she has been "misunderstood" no person with a logical or observing mind can subscribe. The girl capable of flirting in any and every language, and willing to do it, cannot be "misunderstood," and the sooner that fact is recognized, the better for the American girl.

American men, otherwise sensible American men, fathers, brothers, husbands and lovers are coming more and more to follow the foreigner in the estimate of the American girl: to fall a victim to her magnetic charm, her intoxicating spirit, her audacious but unquestionable independence; and so long as she is not of their own family circles, to look obliquely at her acts and overlook her improprieties. The very men who encourage the American girl in her forwardness would be the first to frown down similar acts if committed by their own wives, sisters, daughters, or sweethearts.

Nothing that shows a tendency to immodesty nothing that further fosters the natural vanity of our girls, can be anything but a national danger. Our girls are being spoiled by praise, and, in the excitement of flirtation, they are becom- | light. fisheries commis-

A pair of gold knee-buckles that belonged to Gen! Washington are in the Illinois woman's depart ment.

Seven hundred oil and water-colo paintings, and 200 architectural designs, make up the art-exhibit from Germany.

The colonnade of the Forestry building is made of tree trunks from every State of the Union, and all parts of Canada.

A dairy kitchen,

supplied by Kerry cows from Lord Aberdeen's herd, with a butter-making attachment, is among the exhibits of the Emerald Isle.

The little Eskimo baby, Peter, who the most interesting inhabitants of the Eskimo village, caught the measles just before he left Labrador, and died in Chicago in April.

An eccentric man living in Connecticut started about the 1st of April and is walking to Chicago to stay three months, when he will walk home again. He walked both ways to the Centennial.

As is most appropriate, the government of Spain, through the State department, has officially tendered to the United States as a gift, the reproduced flagship of Columbus, the Santa Maria.

British Guiana makes a novel showing in forestry and agriculture. Some of their woods are monkey-pot, morra, purple-heart, Father Kelley, and other timbers unknown in this country.

The Edison tower of light is 74 feet in diameter, 82 feet high, and has 18,000 electric lights strung over it. It is more than a blaze of glory. It is a tremendous burst of condensed sun.



EDITOR'S NOTE. The following rules govern the publication of all matter in this department.

publication of all matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular subscribers to Comfort, and every contribution must bear the writer's own name and post office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may reach 550. Contributors must write on one side of their paper only.

Every month a number of prize monograms composed of the writer's initials, will be awarded to those sending the best contributions. These monograms, which will be most desirable ornaments for stationery, cards, etc., will be printed in connection with the respective letters, and new electrotypes of same will be mailed, post paid, to the prize winners.

SPECIAL CASH PRIZES.

In order to still further increase interest and encourage competition in this department, the following cash prizes are offered:

Ist. For the best original letter received between May Ist and September Ist, \$10.00.

2nd. For the second best original letter, \$7.50 and. For the second best original letter, \$7.50 and awards will be published in the October issue. The above is in addition to the Monogram prizes and the rules here printed must be carefully observed. This competition is open to every regular paid-up yearly subscriber to "Comfort" who shall, in addition to being a subscriber himself, send the name of at least one new subscriber, with 25 cents (to pay for a year's subscribtion) for each new subscriber so sent. Letters must not exceed 650 words in length, and should be as short as possible. Short letters will receive the preference over long ones.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

PRIZE-MONOGRAM WINNERS FOR JUNE.

D. N. Boothe,
Bertha T. Penn,
James W. Mullens,
Daisy M. Trent,
L. S. Lilly,
Edith M. Browne,
Henry Muenzenmayer.

Edith M. Browne, Myron G. Harder, Henry Muenzenmayer.

First of all, I want to say that I have received information of the use of our name, Compore, in several instances, all of which are fillegal and unauthorized by us. Please let it be distinctly understood that Comporer is copyrighted title, and that our rights to it are legally protected. No other person or persons whatever have any right to its use in any connection similar to that in which it is employed by us. We have already been obliged to enforce our rights in this matter, and hereby give notice that our title is duly protected by the laws of the United States. This warning also applies to the term Aunt Minerva, any unlawful use of which will also be promptly prosecuted.

So many excellent and helpful letters are coming in under the new prize offer, that it is going to be simply impossible to print even half of them. I shall, therefore, use only a very few, entire, and insert extracts from others. Even then, I cannot do full justice to all, and so shall print the names of others, with their subjects, thus giving them an honorable mention. And I hope every Cousin who finds himself in that list will feel complimented; because, when I am receiving many hundred letters every month, and can never give more than fifteen or twenty complete, what am I to do? Have patlenee with your Aunt, dears, and believe that she wants to do her best by every Comfort Cousin.

I hope, too, that you are all as much interested in all the other departments of our model paper as I am. I am sure that every feminine Cousin is on the alert for new prize ideas for the Busy Ber Column; for, where is there a woman who is not interested in fancy work and home-decoration? Then, of course, I expect every one of you, as I said last month, to become members of the new Prize Puzzle Club. I am sure there is no one so isolated but what he can get up a club of four subscribers to Comfort, and so stand a good chance for one of the liberal prizes offered in that corner.

But I must not take up v

But I must not take up valuable space which belongs to you.

A Northern Cousin says: "I send Comport Cousins a few lines on our Canadian winter sports. Many, doubtless, have the idea that our country is one of perpetual snow, since Canada has become noted for its ice palaces, carnivals and other winter amusements. This is far from the truth. What is to so many a cold and dreary season, when people are prone to shudder and draw up to the fireside, is to the average Canadian youth a time of cheerfulness and exhilarating sport. Here there is no such thing as a national winter sportones on universal as to deserve the name—ice yachting, skating, tobogganing, or snow-shoeing being indulged in as locality or opportunity favors. Ice yachting is an exciting sport, the boat of triangular shape and great speed finding plenty of enthusiastic admirers among the yachtsmen of midsummer.

admirers among the yachtsmen of midsummer. Skating, like dancing the "light fantastic," finds



like dropping off the edge of the earth, and falling through space; but the sensation is pleasant, and most people find themselves at the top of the slide for a second trip when their turn comes. So fascinating is the sport, that the more timid ones usually take their places, though they dread to go, nor dare to stay." We have but one sport which is for winter exclusively, that of snow-shoeing; one which has no counterpart in the summer sports. This can never be reproduced out of season, for the reacon that plenty of snow, the great essential, is out of the question when the mercury is creeping upward to the nineties. The snow-shoe, which doubtless originated from necessity, somewhat resembles the tennis racket, consisting of an oval frame of wood, with a weaving of moose-lide constructed and secured to it. This is the way the Indian inventor made it, and his pale-face brother can suggest neither alteration nor improvement. When tatched to the feet, and the snow-shoes are out upon the light snow, watch out. For 'ways that are dark, and tricks that are vain,' these shoes take the cake. Perhaps in attempting the first step one is thrown down. A long, high step, keeping the feet well apart, is the secret of success, and is easy after all. Snow-shocing in the country is delightful to any one who can appreciate the solemnity of nature, while it is a most healthfl exercise—one that provides muscular exertion in a bracing atmosphere."

D. N. Boothe, Oakville, Canada.

Perhaps the idea of Aunt Minerva on snow-shoes will seem comical to you! But I must say that when I was younger I used to go out with a Snow-shoe Cub, and found the exercise of walking across snow-covered fields with a joily crowd, most exhilarating. I once went on an ice-yacht, too, and thought my head was being "whizzed" off. Speaking of ice and snow makes us quite ready to hear something about Iceland.

"Iceland is only a small island and a rough one at that. It is very barren in comparison with other countries and no grain rigens there because the

head was being "whizzed" off. Speaking of ice and snow makes us quite ready to hear something about Iceland.

"Iceland is only a small island and a rough one at that. It is very barren in comparison with other countries, and no grain ripens there because the summer is too short. The only occupation is stock-raising. Fishing is also extensive on the coast. The island is about 40,000 miles square. The population does not exceed 70,000, although the island has been inhabited for over 1,000 years.

"The Icelanders are descendants from the Norwegians who fied from Norway during the reign of Harold the Hardrada, and still speak the old Norse language. They greatly resemble the Americans in stature and complexion. They are well educated considering the scarcity of country schools, and their educational advantages are rapidly growing better. Many attend school in Denmark, England and Norway; but such luxury is indulged in principally by those who have wealthy parents to support them, while those living out in the country, and belonging to the poorer class, have to be satisfied with private tutors, or learn at their parent's knee. Iceland is very mountainous. Mt. Hecla pours forth its volcanie reuptions, and other volcanie mountains are considered dangerous. Mt. Hecla is one of the most famous volcanoes in the world. It is 4,961 feet above the level of the sea, while Orsfajckull is 6,241 feet high. The scenery is beautiful, the lakes numerous, and the rivers alive with trout and other kinds of fish, furnishing everlasting amusement to the tourist. "Iceland is ruled by the King of Denmark, but has its own legislative power. The capital is Reykjavik, situated in the southwestern part of the island. There are the Parliament buildings, the muscum, the public library (where there is an excellent collection of ancient books), the University, and other public buildings."

EGERT J. ERLENDRON, Arra, No. Dakota.

And now let us hear of a queer state of affairs down in Tennessee.

And now let us hear of a queer state of affairs down in Tennessee.

"Bristol is a lively town, lying partly in Virginia and partly in Tennessee, with the middle of the main street as a boundary line.
"In Tennessee, persons of any age can get a marriage license without the consent of parents. In



Virginia, persons under twenty-one cannot be so married. So Bristol has been the Gretna Green for many runaway couples. Rev. A. H. Burroughs is the champion bliss-maker of Bristol, for, in the last two years, he has tied the connubial knot for over three hundred couples.

"Not long since 'two souls with but a single thought' came to Bristol, were married, and hastened to the depot to take the next train home. The bride succeeded in getting on but the groom did not, and the train moved off without him, notwithstanding his frantic gesticulations. The Virginians claim that the State line should run three miles south of Bristol, and the two States are now at law to settle it. If Virginia gains it, the question arises: are those runaway couples legally married? When an offender wishes to evade the law he has every advantage in Bristol; if the officers try to arrest him in Tennessee he escapes into Virginia; and rice person, so that he cannot be taken without a requisition from the governor of the State. One negro committed a theft in Virginia, and defed the officers by running across Main St. into Tennessee, but remembering that he was wanted by the Tennessee officers for a similar offence, he took his stand in the middle of the street, with one foot in Virginia and one in Tennessee, baving, 'Dar now, what you gwine to do?'
"One night a policeman attempted to arrest a half-drunken boy in Virginia, but his father interfered."

"While the two were in altercation, one of the boy's chums picked him up and carried him across the street into Tennessee. An old woman objects to the removal of the State in the removal of the State in Removal of the State in the removal of the street into Tennessee, and so the state in the

BERFA T. P.ENN, Mayo Forge, Patrick Co., Va.

I consider this a most amusing letter. In the midst of our happiness, however, let us not forget the suffering members of the Sunshine Circle. We all know them. There is scarcely anybody but what has some friend who is an invalid. We cannot remember these afflicted ones often enough. It is not sufficient to remember them at Christmas and birthday seasons. We should do something to make life brighter for them right along through the year. The new Sunshine Circle offer gives us a chance to do this. Read over the offer to Shut-Ins. Then, instead of calling their attention to it, just go out among your friends and acquaintances and get up a club, and give some Shut-In the benefit of it. You cannot treat them to a better surprise. I have had letters from several Cousins asking about postage stamp collections. The following letter will be of special interest to these.

"It is with great pleasure that I look every state of the search of the cannot be a search of the sear

troduced. Chringes are made every few years, which is mostly due to the different political parties coming into power. Under the last administration two issues appear, the last one being in nonor of 'our great discoverer' Christopher Columbus. While a great many criticisms are being made about the Columbian issue, as to their size, etc., it is the greatest historical set ever issued by any government; and one that philatelists will appreciate. With this issue five new values were added to the old ones. Complete set of these stamps costs \$16.26, which is about eight times the cost of any previous set."

O. E. KLAPP, P. O. Box 259, St. Paris, Ohio. Read this about the "Bad Lands" of the South-

complete set of these stamps costs \$15.26, which is about eight times the cost of any previous set."

O. E. KLAPP, P. O. Box 259, St. Paris, Ohio. Read this about the "Bad Lands" of the Southwest:

"Doubtless, many Comport readers have read of the wonderful 'Mal Pais' of New Mexico and Arizona. 'Mal Pais' means 'Bad Lands,' which in this territory extend a distance of 65 miles, north and south, in the valley between the White and Organ mountains. The north end is devoid of surface water. The hills vary in height from 15 to 650 feet, and in width from 300 yards to 41-2 miles; and they are so rough that only two crossings have ever been made in the entire length. The lava composing the hills is very hard and black, and heavily charged with electricity. Watches either stop, or get out of order, when kept near the rocks. Horses' feet leave luminous spots on the rocks when walking on them in the dark, such as are seen on a cat's back when stroked in the dark. This is why the Mexicans call it the 'Mal Pais.' At the south end is a lake, nearly a mile in length, of beautiful, sparkling water, which is only lovely to look upon, as it is the worst of gypsum water, and a drink of it does little more toward quenching the thirst than looking upon it. On to the south for four miles the country is perfectly level, when the 'White Sands' set in and continue for 45 miles, varying in width and height as the 'Mal Pais.' They also have water only at the south end. It is claimed by old timers that the White Sands have moved to the east ward some two miles within the past forty years. This seems very reasonable when I tell you that only the west and south winds have full play on them, being protected on the east by the Sacramentos, and on the north by Mt. Blanco. Another peculiarity is that this sand never 'drifts' but moves in a 'roll,' by pilling up and falling over, no sand blowing more than 75 or 100 yards from the main body. It is comparatively without grit when placed in the mouth, yet makes fine mortar.

"It was on my first t

So you see Comfort penetrates even to the most remote and unlikely corners of this great country. Another Cousin has something to tell us about the Mexicans:



OSCAR PAYNE FINDLEY, Leakey, Texas.

OSCAR PAYNE FINDLEY,
Leakey, Texas.

The Indians who used to be numerous all through
that country are fast becoming educated. I was surprised and glad to receive the following letter from
one of them recently:
"I have been a reader of Comport for over two
vears, and take great pleasure in reading the many
letters of your nephews and nieces. I live away
down in the Indian Territory. I am a half-breed
Indian, and live on a small farm out in the country.
An Indian is considered by the white race as a
drunkard, a liar and a thief. I have never yet been
drunk in my life, and don't ever expect to be caught
indulging in such habits. The Indian Territory is a
very large Indian reservation, and is well supplied
with farms and cattle. There have been great stories
told about the Indians; many are true enough, while
the most savage stories are not. I guess I will close
and give some other reader a little space."

D. V. C., Locust Grove, I. T.

I have a good many letters from children, but only

I have a good many letters from children, but only now and then can I use one. This one is especially well-written:

"I am a little girl 9 years old, and live in Southern Illinois. I can read in the newspapers, and my father takes lots of them, but of all Ilike Comport best, especially Auntie's corner. For pets, I have five canary birds, a big cat that I call John L. Sullivan, and a shepherd dog, Sancho. My dog will come into the house and pick up any article that he can reach and bring it to me to trade for a piece of meat; and he won't let me have it either until I give him some meat or bread.

"I am getting up a collection of curios, and wish some of the Cousins would send me any odd shell or rock, anything curious, and I will promise to send them something pretty in return for it. I can do lots of work too, Auntie, and I can play on my sister's guitar and piano.

"Please Auntie print this and I will love you."

and I can play and plano. "Please Aun will love you."

will love you."

Daisy M. Trent,
Anna, Union Ca., Ill.
Who does not remember the terrible Johnstown floed in 1889? From
a very good letter about the Grand View Cemetery,
where the victims were buried, I take this;

where the victims were buried, I take this;

"Wandering through the artistic walks of the cemetery, I was awed by the number of tombstones bearing this inscription: 'Died May 31, 1889.' Of course, the Unknown Plot is the greatest place of interest. On this a large statue, representing 'Faith, Hope and Charity,' has been erected, in memory of the unknown victims of the flood. The plot is almost triangular in shape, and in it are buried eight most triangular in shape, and in it are buried eight nondred persons who not only lost their lives in the flood, but were so disfigured that it was impossible for friends to recognize them. Over each grave a plain, white marble slab is erected. If I live a hundred years I shall never forget my first visit to Grand View."

HARRY E. HARLEY, Johnstown, Pa.



TO BRACE UP the TO BRACE UP the system after "La Grippe," pneumonia, fevers, and other prostrating acute diseases; to build up needed fiesh and strength, and to restore health and vigor when you feel "run-down" and used-up, the best thing in the world is Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It promotes all the bodily functions, rouses every organ into healthful action, purifies and enriches the

gan into healthful action, purifies and enriches the blood, and through it cleanses, repairs, and invigorates the entire system.

For the most stubborn Scrofulous, Skin or Scalp Diseases, Dyspepsia, Biliousness, and kindred ailments, the "Discovery" is the only remedy that's guaranteed. If it doesn't benefit or cure, you have your money back. you have your money back.

Can you think of anything more convincing than the promise that is made by the proprietors of Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy? It is this: "If we can't cure your Catarrh, we'll pay you \$500 in cash."



and plating jewelry, watches tableware, &c. Plates the finest of jewelry good as new, on all kinds of metal with gold, silver or nickel. No experience. No capital. Every house has goods needing plating. Wholesale to some the service of the plating.

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the Ears, Nose, etc.

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CLARENCE A. LYON, 45 Commercial St., Lynn, Mass., has given a good description of the "City of Shoes," and the attractions of the sea coast near by.

"Many cases of shoes are made and sent from here daily," he says, "and the central part of the city is covered with shoe factories. In November, 1889, one hundred and twenty factories were burnt to the ground and hundreds of people were thrown out of employment. This caused many manufacturers to move, and their factories are now at East and West Lynn. At the latter place, the largest electric light station—the Thomson-Houston Co.—is situated. From High Rock the entire city can be seen, with a nice ocean view, the waves playabout Egg Rock, one and one-half miles from shore, the Peninsula of Nahant, the public buildings, schools, churches, club-houses, the shoe center and electric station, etc."

L. S. Lilly, 606 W. Lackawanna Ave., Scranton, Pa., furnishes an entertaining account of that city, which sends out one-half the anthracite coal supply of the United States.



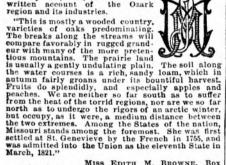
of the United States.

"In addition to this, Scranton produces more steel rails than any other city in the world. The steel rail industry was started by the Lackawanna Iron and Coal Company in 1875. Beautiful residences, the homes of Scranton's business the homes of Scranton's business and professional men delight the eye of visitors, and all who come, go away with a pleasant remembrance of Scranton. She is the best lit city in the Uuited States, having \$0,000 incandescent lights in use to-day, which justly entitles her to be called the "Electric City."

John M. MURPHY, Weaubleau,

United Sandy Which justify each to-day, which justify each to-day, which justify each to-day, which makes the control of the Ozark region and its industries.

"This is mostly a wooded country, will something of the Ozark predominating."





Miss Edith M. Browne, Box 381, Orlando, Orange Co., Fla., furnishes an account of some very pretty English customs of the springtide.

springtide.

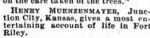
"The second Sunday before Easter is called 'Mothering Sunday,' and on that day the parents send cakes to the children, and the children are to the parents. Cakes are also sent to friends. My first recollection of almond paste was on a cake sent to my governess on that day. Another custom is put into practice on Palm Sunday. A special service is held in the afternoon, and every one is expected to take flowers. A long procession of children file up to the altar and deliver their flowers into the clergyman's hands. After the service the flowers are packed in large boxes, and sent to the hospitals in the mearest cities, and bring a ray of runshine into the inmates' dreary lives."

MYRON G. HARDER, Lincola City, Delaware, tells us something new about peach-culture.

"Peach trees are propagated in nurseries planted and events."

Myron G. Harder, Lincoln City, Delaware, tells us something new about peach-culture.

"Peach trees are propagated in nurseries planted and cultivated for the special purpose of raising young trees for the markets. The plts from common fruit stock are cracked, the inner meats carefully taken out and sowed in furrows ploughed in mellow, sandy soil. If the young trees are wanted for transplantation the first year, they are budded in June, but if larger trees are desired, they are not budded till the sap has ceased flowing—generally in September. Then the tree is budded near the surface of the ground and the trees cut off close to the bud in February. In the spring, as the sap begins to flow, the little bud receives nourishment from all the roots of the previous season's tree, all minor shoots and sprouts being kept off. Thus the frail bud, on receiving such a powerful impetus, is driven up with surprising rapidity, and by autumn we have a tree measuring from four to eight feet in height. The next act on the programme is transplanting peach trees. They are generally placed twenty feet apart each way, and thoroughly cultivated during the summer season. No weeds or grasses are allowed in the orchard, and young orchards begin to be profitable in the six or seventh year, depending on the care taken of the trees."



vated during the summer season. No weeds or grasses are allowed in the orchard, and young orchards begin to be profitable in the six or seventh year, depending on the care taken of the trees."

HENRY MUENZEMMAYER, Junction City, Kansas, gives a most entertaining account of life in Fort Riley.

"The fort has cost the Government many thousand dollars in the way of improvements. They have all new and costly buildings, such as the riding-hall, a large building 100 x300 feet, where the soldiers have their regular drill practice, such as riding horses at full speed, jumping high fences, across wide ditches, and all things cavalry horses have to be trained to. The mess hall is another building nearly as large as the riding hall. It is built more substantially and is square. Here they do all their cooking and eating. The stoves, coffee, tea and hot water tanks are heated with a large engine which is kept running night and day. They boil 75 to 100 gallons of coffee at one time. A half dozen hogs, or an ox, isn't much of a starter for a meal when all the soldiers are in. The tables are set in the dining-room in rows, with small three legged stools to sit on. The waiters have large trucks on rollers, about 6 feet high, with five shelves; with these they roll the food to the tables. The privates take turns in waiting on the tables, the same as they are called to stand guard at the gates. The officers have their meals in another building. The hospital is very large and equipped with all necessary departments. The geographical center of the United States is but two miles from this place. They have erected a nice monument there which can be seen from far off, as it is on a large hill."

From one of the letters, of which I wish to make special complimentary mention, I take a short extract about Valley Forge.

"Matson's Ford road, the principal street of this town, is the one which was taken by Gen. George Washington when he made his dismal journey to Valley Forge; so you will perceive our town is located upon historic soil, an

FRANK STRADER, W. Carrollton, Ohio, describes a blank-book factory.

FLOSSIE E. RANDALL writes interestingly on tobacco-raising, which has already been described in this department.

CLARENCE M. SLAIGLEY, Jamestown, Ohio, tells of the famous mounds of Ohio, which have excited the curiosity of scientific students everywhere. Frank Strader also describes the same natural phenomena. ADA J. DENNEY, Frazer, Pa., writes interestingly of the many historic spots in her vicinity.

J. M. HEARD, Jr., Macon, Ga., describes the colleges and other main features of that city.

O. Heins of Tillamook, Oregon, sends a plain type-written account of the region around him.

J. R. LOWENTHAL, 222 Washington St., Vicksburg, Miss., gives an exceedingly interesting description of the Vicksburg war museum and its relies.

12

THE PERSON NAMED IN

Charles J. Kremer, Sellersville, Pa., writes a pleasant account of his visit to Philadelphia, and describes the Liberty Bell, which was recently written of among our "Pictured Bits."

YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN. Light honorable employment at home, will pay \$20 to \$40 per week, write us.

MATTOON & CO., OSWEGO, N. Y.

ADA MAY ROCK, Yakima City, Washington, gives s some entertaining facts about her State. MABEL MARSHALL, Indiana, Pa., tells a funny

MABEL MARSHALL, Indiana, Pa., tells a lunny ghost story.

OLAP V. WELCH, Alexander City, Tallapoosa Co., Alabama, writes a manly letter in which he says: "I have a hard time getting an education, but, nevertheless, it will all come right some day. There are a good many boys, who, if their parents do not spend all they make for them, and let them do as they please, will run away. I think a poor home is better than none; and if those boys that run away would stay at home and work for themselves at odd times, the world would be in a better way."

In closing I want to refer once more to the necessity

In closing I want to refer once more to the necessity of each Cousin's being perfectly honest about their letters. Be original or nothing. Let me give you a motto:

THOU SHALT NOT STEAL

A Cousin who will borrow another's ideas now, without giving credit, might, in later life, borrow a horse between two days and forget to return it. A word to the wise is sufficient.

Again, there are so many who send in poorly written, badly spelled letters about nothing in particular, and written on both sides of the paper at that. Then they wonder that they do not see their letters in print and win a monogram. Please remember that letters must be well-written, and that you should have something to write about which will interest all the cousins. Read the conditions, and the published letters, carefully, and then try to improve on the best of them. It is our constant aim to improve the paper, so it will not do to think that what is just as good as somebody wrote several years ago, is good enough now. We want something better all the time.

time.
It is suppose thousands of the Cousins are going to I suppose thousands of the Cousins are going to I suppose the World's Fair. All who intend to do so, should read the article in our fashion department, which tells not only what people should wear, but what small articles should be taken along, and what rules to observe in regard to health and convenience. Every Cousin should read it.

AUNT MINERVA.

ABOUT EAR-RINGS.

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AFRICAN METAL EAR-RING.

AT present adopt this would-be attribute of beauty.

AT present, the very small ear-drop is sometimes scen; but the popular ornaments are the little single stones—diamonds, turquoises, moonstones, or other gems—screwed close to the lobe of the ear, with a tiny gold back.

It is an old, old fashion to have the ears plerced for sore eyes. In many cases, physicians have prescribed this remedy. When there is simple inflammation of the lids or the white of the ear, where inflams son puncturing the ear, where inflams mation of the lids or the white of the ear, where inflams son puncturing the ear, where inflams on puncturing the ear, where inflams of puncturing the ear, w

ear-jewels at some time in their lives. If
they live through that period without
plercing their ears, they are liable to go
unornamented to their grave, unless they
happen to marry rich husbands who can
give them diamond ear-drops. In that
case they generally yield to temptation,
and, be it early or be it late in life, IRON ORNthey follow the time-honored cus-AMENTS OR
tom of centuries of fashionable women. WA TEITA

Antf-Obesity Pills reduce stoutness surety—4 lbs. a week; cause no sickness; guaranteed hermiess. Particulars (sealed), 4c. Herbal Hemedy Co. B. T. Phila. Pr WIFE SAYS SHE CANNOT SEE HOW YOU DO IT FOR THE MONEY.

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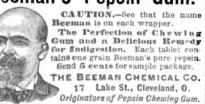
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Cough, and all BLOOD DISEASES,
Send for circular, Mention this paper



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e, who makes a specialty of Epilepsy, has without doubt treated and cured more cases than any living Physician; his success is astonishing. We have heard of cases of 20 years' standing cured by him. He publishes a valuable work on this disease which he sends with a large bottle of his absolute cure, free to any sufferer who may send their Post Office and Express address. We advise anyone wishing a cure to address. Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F. D., 4 Cedar St. New York.

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Discovered by Accident.—In Comproyation, an incomplete instruct was accidentally spilled on the back of the hand, and on washing afterward it was discovered that the hair was completely removed. We pusshead the new discovery and named is MODREM. His perfectly pure, free from all injurious substances, and so simple any one can use it. It acts mildly but surely, and you will be surprised and delighted with theresults. Apply for a few minutes and the hair disappears as if by magic. It has no resemblance whatever to any other preparation ever use for a like purpose, and no scientific discovery ever attained such wonderful results. IT CAN NOT FAIL. If the growth be light, one application will remove it permanently; the heavy growth such as the beard or hair on moies may require two or more applications before all the roots are destroyed, although all hair will be removed at each applications before all the roots are destroyed, although all hair will be removed at each applications before all the roots are destroyed, although all hair will be removed at each applications before all the roots are destroyed, although all hair will be removed at each applications before all the roots are destroyed, although all hair will be removed at each applications before all the roots are destroyed, although all hair will be removed at each applications before all the roots are destroyed, although all hair will be removed at each applications before all the roots are destroyed, although all hair will be removed at each application before all the roots are destroyed, although all hair will be removed at each application between the roots are destroyed, although all hair will be removed at each application between the roots are destroyed, although all hair will address written plains. (To Controlled to the hair, thereby rend

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\$25.00 In Cash Prizes for Best Letters to Aunt Minerva Chats. (See Aunt Minerva Department in this issue.)

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ONLY 25 CENTS FOR A WHOLE YEAR'S COMFORT.

SOUVENIR SPOONS.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT.

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aire, or a President of the United States.

The "Souvenir Spoon fad" has been carried to an extent that has become ridiculous to the last degree. The word "souvenir" suggests something odd, ingenious, and peculiar to the place it comes from When it is reduced to the tevel of an article that is turned out by the million, far away from the place it purports to represent, it ceases to be what the name implies.

mplies.

A gentleman in New Haven, Conn., ordered for his wife some years ago, a set of spoons which should represent the twelve leading historical events in the history of this country. They were all made by hand, and have never been duplicated. Now, these are souvenir spoons worth having. Women who have traveled abroad extensively have sometimes made a practice of picking up curious little spoons in the odd, out-of-the-way corners of Europe. These, too, make valuable souvenirs, and cannot be too highly prized.

But the idea, like many others that have become

But the idea, like many others that have become opular, has grown into a craze.

when the custom of carrying away from noted places a solid silver spoon as a souvenir first became common, it sprang immediately into favor. The Plymouth spoon, with the ship Mayflower carved in the handle, the Salem spoon, with its gaunt and haggard witch entangled in a knot of rope, broomsticks, and black cats, and the Boston spoon, with the Bunker Hill monument, all furnished a suggestive and realistic souvenir of the historical sort. This was a pretty notion, too.

But soon the smaller towns took it we Willeaust.



Pacific coast, shaped something like thebowl of a soup spoon. He took this to a leading leweler of San Francisco, and had it set as a souvenir spoon. For a handle, a strip of thin, iridescent shell was used, being riveted to the bowl with gold. Similar ones might be made by taking half the shell of a large English walnut, or a small cocoanut, having it polished and smoothed, and then fastened to a silver handle.

One of the most unique designs for souvenir spoons is made from coins which are simply made concave by pressure, the faces being unaltered, and to which are simply made concave by pressure, the faces being unaltered, and to the quaint strength of all sorts are fixed.

The small German coins, which are particular beautiful after-dinner coffee spot

The small German coins, which are particularly unique, make a beautiful after-dinner coffee spoon; and various California coins of early dates—as large as half a dollar—make appropriate dessert spoons. But any coin may be used, and a spoon so made has a double value. Many of these spoons have odd handles characteristic of the place from which they come. Gold, quartz and natural jewels are, for instance, often set into the ends of the handles.

There is really no end to the possibilities that suggest themselves when we think of designing souvenir spoons.

THE SANTA MARIA

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.



HE marine wonder of the season, is HE marine wonder of the season, is
the model of Columbus' flagshipthe Santa Maria—which has before
been referred to in these
columns. The Spanish
government had her built
exactly like the one the
great discoverer came to
America in, and is going
to present her to the
United States government. She made her first
appearance in American
waters at the naval review in April, when she
was a picture which
proved not only exquisitely beautiful and
profoundly unique in rofoundly

place sailing vessels and steam-driven monsters, but one which had the probably historically valuable feature of proving that the clumsy ships of Columbus' time were good sailers and could cover water quickly with a fair

sailers and could cover water quickly with a fair wind.

She must indeed be a unique sight, this 15th century ship, among the most complete and perfect modern war-ships.

The Santa Maria is an awkward little craft—or caravel, as she is called in Spain—top-heavy with sails, and each brown canvas sail bearing on its front the Maltese cross which led the way to discovery and honor. The gaudy red and yellow flag of Spain hangs from the mainmast. At the fore is the flag of Caristopher Columbus. On the topgallant forecastle deck is asloping little coop, about which rise the heavy, knotted ropes and the clumsy old pulleys. Her greenish drab hull is ribbed with timbers of a faded color. Her stern is square and blocky as that of any other boat, and the wooden rudder hangs clumsity in the water. On the mainmast is the spreading mainyard, above which is the military top, a crown-shaped box of rosewood.



When her sails are unfurled, however, all her clumsiness disappears. Her enormous bellying canvasses lend her an almost inconcetvable beauty and totally change her aspect. The great foresail puffs out in front like the breast of a pouter pigeon, swelling far over the queer ship's nose, changing its grotesqueness into strange grace. The proportions of the mainsail, canted at the most picturesque angle possible, easily prevail over every other feature of the ship. So great is its size that it needs the little opsail overhead to soften its proportions, and then the three-cornered sail at hangs up like a banner. The little rude cabin is furnished in a quaint style all its own. A few chairs of the fashion of 1482, the Spanish coat-of-arms gainst the wall, and a bunk or two, constitute the entire furnishing. It is a queer little craft, but one which every true American is bound to look upon with respect, not unmixed with awe.

Perhaps few people remember that the discovery

baking powder.

Away with such vandalism!
An old spoon, not exactly geometrical in shape, dented perhaps with time and usage, marked with initials of some dead and forgotten ancestress, is ten times more valuable than a so-called "souvenir" spoon that ca. be bought anywhere for two or three dollars. And such as these will increase in value as time goes on, let the fashionable fad be what it may. And so it happens, that many women have souvenir spoons of lar greater value than she can buy.

Then there is another very interesting class of souvenir spoons which are both unique or original. A gentleman found a handsome deep shell on the

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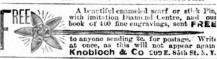
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OW that all eyes are looking toward Chicago, and all heads planning the best way to get there, let us see what is the most convenient dress for the trip, and the most advisable outfit generally.

From a large variety of new traveling dresses worn in the greater cities, we have taken practical ideas and combined them into a suit called Comfort's World's Fair Dress. It is made of serge, flannel, hop-sacking, or even silk, and is proportionately expensing, or even silk, and is proportionately expensive. The skirt is an enlarged "bell" shape, wider at the bottom than those of last year, and fitted to the belt by darts. The extra fullness is gathered into three inches in the back, and the skirt fastens at the side front. There is a wide front gore, which has two lapels about twelve inches deep at the top. One of these covers the placket-hole and the other conceals a wide, deep pocket. A similar pocket may be fastened under the other lapel, and the two will be found extremely convenient for stowing away an extra handkerchief, a pair of gloves, cards, pocketbook and veil. Remember that a large pocket does not show on the outside, while a small one does. The bottom of the skirt should be at least an inch—and better two inches—from the floor all around. For what can be more inconvenient than to be obliged to carry the skirts in one hand all over the Fair Grounds? The skirt fits closely around the waist, and has the correct flaring effect at the bottom. It may have a narrow foot-trimming, or a wide one. Braid or galloon in graduated widths is very popular, but many will prefer our World's Fair Dress with notrimming at all on the skirt, except a deep, stitched hem. The lapels should be finished to match the bottom, and are sometimes closed entirely with buttons. A fancy belt, or one of the same material may be worn. If the latter, it is often convenient to have it attached to the skirt-binding, fastening at the side.

The waist consists of a blouse and a jacket. The former may be simple or ornate, cheap or expensive, trimmed or untrimmed. It is best to be provided with two or more. A simple cotton one, well laundered, is entirely proper for traveling or sight-seing. A plain India silk is equally good for those purposes, and while it is just as cool, it protects one better from drafts and sudden exposure. A more fanciful waist for dressy occasions, or to wear without the jacket, at table or on a warm day, is advisable, if one can afford it, but is by no means necess sive. The skirt is an enlarged "bell" shape, wider at the bottom than those of last year, and

Eton jacket arrange-ment of the collar our illustration should be followed. The loose leg-o'-mut ton sleeve is preferable to ble to others, as the enor-mous puffed ones are ed ones are ent ir el y out of place on a traveling suit. There are two breastpockets which are of service for tickets, keys or a small handker-chief, and chief, and the back has a tiny point at the waist line.

Now, let us see what a suit will cost.

cost.
Of course that depends in rgely upon the material used. For the masses. TRAVELING DRESS. material traveling dress. used. For the masses, who like to be well, but not expensively, dressed, an ordinary serge, which may be bought as low as 29 cents a yard at any of the leading dry-goods stores in the large cities, will make a serviceable, neat and becoming dress. Navy blue is the best color, as it is universally becoming, does not show dirt or dust, and stands all sorts of weather—although other colors are admissible. From 8 to 10 yards are sufficient for the dress, and if it is finished with plain stitching (which is always in good taste), and a cotton blouse is worn, the entire suit may be made at home for \$3.50. If, however, expensive quality is preferred, there are serges from 50 cents to \$1.50 a yard, ladies' cloths at \$1 to \$2, and other simplar materials. If the galloon or braid trimming is used, this will add to its cost.

There is a new material, known as "silk sponge flannel," woven of silk "thrums," which comes at 60 cents a yard, and makes excellent traveling and street costumes. It is only 27 inches wide, and more than 8 yards would be required; but it "wears like iron," it is cool and always dressy.

Russet leather shoes may be worn by young people, but the newest and most convenient foot-covering to go with the Comport dress, is a low walking-shoe, which has a laced front, but has also a side-piece—"gore"—of strong rubber webbing, such as made the old "Congress gaiter" so popular. This does away with the necessity of unlacing the boot and makes it always comfortable.

A simple turban r wide-brimmed sailor-hat, plainly trimmed to match the suit. completes the outfit.

With these hints, and the illustration, I am sure you can easily make the Comport World's Fair Dress at home, and will be pleased and surprised at its inexpensive and comfortable qualities.

Now what else are you going to take along?

With this suit, and a variety of blouses, one could manage very well with no more gowns, unless very swell receptions are in the programme for Chicago. But there are other things which one needs to take for comfort and health. Provide yourselves with smelling-salts (which can be carried in one of the jacket pockets), for you will be in crowded and close places; a box of compressed quinine tablets, as a protection against malaria and colds; and a bottle of camphor or alcohol, to be used in time of need. Take along an old and comfortable pair of shoes to do your sight-seeing in. Nothing can really be enjoyed, if one is footsore, and to be on one's feet all day, is to most people, exceedingly fatiguing. Some physicians say that no one should travel without a little flask of brandy, to be used not as a beverage, but in case of accident or sudden sickness. A bottle of cholera mixture is a not here necessity. The following, which

of cholera mixture is an ot her necessity. The following, which was published in Comfort last July, is the best recipe known; and we repeat it here by request, advising all to try it:

Take equal parts of tincture of cavenne.

known; and we repate there by request, advising all to try it.

Take equal parts of fincture of opium, tincture of tincture of the tincture of th

best are the ones who wear proper tennis suits. A few years ago, a gentleman at the seashore got up a grand tennis tournament. The girls who were to play were elaborately costumed and wore the colors of their favorite colleges. But there was one girl short in making up the lets. Now, the gentleman who was getting up this tournament had noticed a quiet girl at the hotel, who, although she never wore striking costumes, seemed to have a level head. So he went and asked her to make up the set.

"O I can't play well enough," she said. "I've no tennis suit, and no shoes."

He knew she could play to win, however, and so

however, and so persuaded her to get up a suit and join the tourna-ment. So she sent to Boston for "out-ing flannel" at 121-2 to boston for "outing flannel" at 121-2 cents per yard, and made it up herself with a plain, full skirt and blouse. Then she bought a pair of tennis shoes for seventy cents, and was equipped. "Now," he said to her, on the day of the tournament, "you just leave off your corsets, and we'll play in the doubles."

Like the sensible girl she was, she left her corsets upstairs, and "went in" for the championship with her partner.

LORD FAUNTLEROY SULT.



tennis player should always have a light jacket to put on after vigorous exercise, our plan includes a simple "blazer" jacket, with revers collar. This makes a sensible, comfortable suit, which tume, but is equally suitable for croquet, travelling, or church wear in the country. In fact, it is a perfect outing dress. is a perfect outing dress

It is a perfect outing dress.

I have yet to learn of a woman who is interested in fashion that is not also interested in fancy-work or home decoration in some way. So I commend you all to the Busy Bee Department where you will find some excellent and practical directions.

And may all of you have a new Comfort World's Fair Dress—and then go to Chicago and wear it!

Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething. It soothes the child softens the gums, allays pain, cures wind colic and is the best.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

Germany has over one hundred and fifty cooking

The princess Victoria Kaiula of Hawaii will enter Wellesley College, Mass., next fall.

Rosa Bonheur, the celebrated animal painter, is ex-travagantly fond of pets and keeps her home full of them all the time.

The widow of the famous Arctic explorer Kar said to be in destitute circumstances. The Chi Inter-Ocean is raising a fund for her.

Lady Henry Somerset is the first of the English nobility to enter the ranks of newspaper women. She has recently become the editor of a temperance paper in London.

Ellen Terry, the great English actress, is said to be very kind to the poor. In her South Kensington (London) home she keeps a basket full of garments to be made for them, and in her leisure moments makes them up herself.

Disciples of Delsarte may not be willing to acknowledge it, says a leading physician, but the duties of housekeeping, sweeping, bread-making, making beds, ironing, etc., are the best ways in the world to develop the muscles.

A woman down in Tennessee recently wore hoops to church and overheard some rude remarks in regard to them, which she promptly reported to her husband. He was enraged, and a fight was immediately brought on, in which several heads were cracked and more tempers broken.

There is a new guild in England made up of women who are thoroughly trained in cooking and all sorts of household work. When the mother of a house gets worn down and tired out, or when sickness comes on, these veritable sisters of mercy are sent to the family to take the mother's place.

At last the married "masher" is to be put down. The Ohio legislature has passed a bill providing that any married man who shall represent himself as unarried, and propose marriage to a wonan of good character, or pay attentions to her with such intent, shall be found guilty of a misdemeanor, and fined not less than \$100, or more than \$300. At this rate, it is going to cost a man something to be a gay Lothario.

A NEW CURE FOR ASTHMA.

all? After all, neatness and simplicity are the best requisites for children's clothes.

With the month of June, young people begin to indulge in out-door sports. Tennis is one of the most healthful as well as enjoyable games in the world. But our girls do not always dress sensibly for it. No girl can play well who is squeezed into a corset or a tight gown. The girls who play

From Maine to California.

LETTERS THAT ARE SELF-EXPLANATORY.

San Bernardino, California.

Gentlemen:—I was fearfully thin, weak, and nervous, had a terrible gnawing in my stomach, and was not able to take care of my children. Your agent, Mr. Logsden, prevailed upon me to try your Oxien. I began to improve rapidly. Two Giant boxes relieved me of 16 large stomach worms, one being 13 inches long. I am now so well and strong that my doctors are surprised. Oxien has also cured two of my children of Pneumonia, and we call it car family doctor.

J. E. Benierd.

High Sands, California.

Gentlemen:—The doctors were unable to cure me of La Grippe, and I lingered for months without hope. I bought Oxien from your agent, Mr. Logsden, and gave it to my children for Pneumonia fever. It cured them and I tried it myself with wonderful results, for I am not only well and strong but cured of deafness of 30 years standing, and can now hear as well as ahyone.

Mrs. Mary M. Menkee.

University, Los Angeles, California.
Gentlemen:—After having been an invalid for three years, suffering greatly from nervous prostration and nervous debility, I now feel well as your wonderful food, Oxien, has done wonders for me. I have never found such a valuable remedy before.

MARY E. BREED.

167 Chestnut St., Pasadena, Cal. Gentlemen:—I was all tired out and so hoarse that I could hardly speak. I feel it my duty to say Oxien is a great remedy. It has benefited my nervous system, and helped me in various ways.

Frank Herman.

634 North Oakes Ave., Pasadena, Cal. Gentlemen—: My husband was a great sufferer from Rheumatism, and could not sleep nights. Oxien has done wonders for him, and he has only used two boxes. Mrs. W. B. LEDOUX.

San Bernardino, California.

Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine.
Gentlemen:—I have been a total nervous wreck for more than a year. It was from a hurt i received, and caused great suffering in my chest. Doctors could not relieve me, I could not sleep, and lost all hope of ever getting over it, not being able to work at all. Oxien has wrought a great change, as it has been the means of relieving me of a 25 feet tape-worm, and over a hundred smaller ones. I am now doing all kinds of ranch work, and enjoy excellent health. I trust all who are undergoing a life of misery and suffering, will try the wonderful food for the nerves. It was certainly a God-send to me.

MARION HAWKINS.

Pasadena, California.
Gentlemen:—Oxien is all you recommend it to be, as it has benefited both myself and husband. I was very nervous and we both sleep much better than ever before.

Mrs. W. H. RAYMOND.

Pasadena, Cal., May 5, 1893.
Gentlemen:—Our three year old boy had a very severe attack of croup this morning.
Oxien has completely cured him. We consider it a wonderful remedy.

Mrs. E. M. WALLER.

Your Oxien saved my little ones from death. They had scarlet fever and diphtheria very badly. I doctored them with Oxien and they are now well and strong. Other people have had two or three doctors and did not live. I consider Oxien is worth its weight in gold. I have used it for various diseases and found it very valuable.

Mrs. Fannie Doty.

Columbia, Jan. 9, 1893.—I lad nervous toothache, pain in my head and back. Oxien cured me. It is worth \$5 a box. JORDAN MILLER.

As there are many who wish to give Oxien a trial, and also make money selling the Food, The Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine, will send free samples for the next 30 days to all who will write at once.

CHEAP HOMES. Cash or time. Real Estate Journal, Arcadia, Florida. With Map, 10 cents.

INVEST in cheap Arkansas Land, on installments, and hold for a Raise. W. B. Beach, Bridgeport, Conn.

My ELECTRIC BELT sent on TRIAL FREE Give size. Dr. Judd, Detroit, Mich. Want agts.

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ADVERTISERS BUREAU, 68 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

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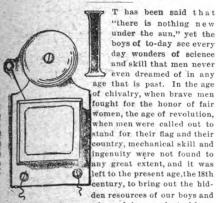
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Practical Electricity For Boys.

BY H. EDWARD SWIPT.

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T has been said that "there is nothing new under the sun," yet the boys of to-day see every day wonders of science and skill that men never even dreamed of in any

age that is past. In the age of chivalry, when brave men fought for the honor of fair women, the age of revolution, when men were called out to stand for their flag and their country, mechanical skill and ingenuity were not found to any great extent, and it was left to the present age, the 18th century, to bring out the hid-

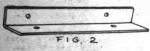
The age of wood, iron, and steel have ung men had successive sway, and the boys have been left the inheritance of these, as a foundation for the great things yet to be done in this, the age of electricity. In placing before COMFORT readers the articles this is the opening, I hope to be able to give you hints and practical suggestions that will help you not only to amuse yourself by carrying out my directions for the sake of having an interesting toy as the reward of your labors, but I trust you will get ideas that will start you on the road as breadwinners. You all, I trust, find entertainment and instruction in our Prize Puzzle Column, Aunt Minerva's Chats, Nutshell Prize Story Club, and numerous other original and pleasing features, and now I shall try to set your busy brains and hands at work by telling you in this first chapter of "Practical Electricity for Boys," how to make an Electric Bell.

I think most any boy with a mechanical turn of mind, with the few tools at his command, and perhaps a little outside aid, will be able to carry out my instructions practically, and make as good an elec-tric bell as can be bought. The material required for making anything here described can usually be bought at the nearest hardware dealers. Now, let us

first thing neces-The sary is the electro magnet. This is the vital part of an electric bell, and is the part that does the work;



without it the other parts would be worthless. Get two pieces of 5-16 inch round Norway iron, each 2 inches long, reduce one end of each piece for 1-8 inch from the end to 1-8 inch, in diameter, as in Fig. 1. This a boy can do by filing. Next get a piece of flat soft iron 2 inches long, 1 1-4 inches wide and about 3-32 inch thick, shaping it as in Fig. 2, by bending it lengthwise in the middle making a sharp angle; then drill two 1-8 inch holes in the upright flange 13-8 inches apart, and rivet the shouldered pieces already made into them. Two holes



should also be drilled in the other flange large enough to take a 1-2 inch number 4

d screw, to fasten it all to the baseboard to described later on. This constitutes what is called the back armature and the cores.

These must be placed in the fire and annealed or oftened by heating them to a cherry red heat, after which they must be buried in the ashes and allowed to cool slowly.

This is done to prevent what is called residual magnetism from remaining in the iron, and hindering the action of the bell when finished. Now we must put the wire on our cores. To do this we must first make the bobbins, on which to wind the wire.

These can be made by using the turned ends of ordinary spools and glueing them on the ends of paper tubes, made 1 1-8 inches long and the right size to slip on the cores already made. Make the tubes by winding a piece of common writing paper, twice around the core, and fastening it firmly with glue. Be careful not to glue the paper to the core.

Make the holes in the spool heads large enough to

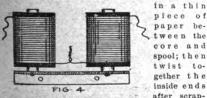
admit the ends of the paper tube, and then glue the heads on, just allowing the ds of the tube to come even with face of the heads as in Fig. 3. When the bobbins are dry they are



ready to wind. Get about 4 ounces of number 24 single cotton covered copper magnet wire, and after iking a small hole in the bobbin head as at A, Fig. 1 put through the end of the wire from the inside leaving an end about 8 inches long outside. Then place the bobbin on a piece of brass or wood the same size as the core and wind on by hand or in a lathe, if you can wire enough to fill the bobbin just to fasten securely with a half hitch before cutting it off.

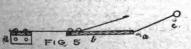
Leave plenty of wire on the end, say 6 inches, to make connections with. Be careful and wind the bobbins in the same direction.

When finished, smoothly and evenly wound, slip them on to the cores, and make them tight by putting



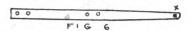
ing off the insulation (wrapping), as in Fig. 4, leaving the two outside ends loose. You now have the mag-

The next thing to consider is the armature and its



fittings. The armature itself is made of a piece of

soft iron 17-8 inches long, 3-4 inch wide, and 1-8 inch thick; filed up nicely; then drill a hole 1-16 inch in diameter in the centre of one of the ends, as at A, Fig. 5, and two holes the same size through it at B, through which to rivet the spring as shown. The spring must be made of a piece of spring brass number 24 gauge, 3 inches long, and 1-2 inch wide, cut and drilled as in Fig. 6. The two sets of holes being about 3-4 inch apart. Now make a small bracket, D in Fig. 5, of brass 5-8 inch long, with holes to fasten it down with, making it high enough to bring the armature on a level with the cores when all are fastened down, then rivet the spring to the armature and bracket, with small pieces of 1-16 inch, brass or iron wire, or escutcheon pins, as shown in Fig. 5. For the hammer make a round ball 3-8 or 5-16 inches



in diameter and drill a 1-16 inch hole in one side almost through the ball. Make a stem 31-2 inches long of 1-16 steel wire and drive one end into the armature at A, and the other end into the ball at C, Fig. 5. If you can conveniently it will be well to solder the stem at both ends, to make it more secure. On the tip of the spring shown in Fig. 6, it is best to solder a small piece of platinum (X) about 1-8 inch square to prevent the spark formed by the action of the bell from corroding the connection. We must now have a contact bracket shown in Fig.

7. This can be made with a screw as shown, or may be made like Fig. 8. This should be of brass 3-8 inch wide and with FIG. 7 sufficient height to bring the point of the screw in Fig. 7, or the tip of the bracket
A, in Fig. 8, on a level with the center of the cores or

about 5-8 inch high. Be sure if you use the bracket shown in Fig. 8, to file the end turned over at the top to a point or nearly so. If you use the other use a 1-2 inch eight-thirty-two screw with round head, and have the screw work tight in the bracket. Make one hole in the bottom of the bracket to fasten

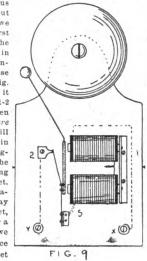
it down with as in the other brackets Procure a 21-2 inch or a 3 inch brass or

nickel-plated gong of your hardware dealer, and make a brass post 1 1-2 inches FIG. 8 long and 5-16 diameter. Drill a hole in each end and cut a thread with an 8 thirty-two tap in each. You will need one 1-4 inch and one 3-4 inch screw to fasten the gong to the post, and the post to the base board.

Now make the base board on which to mount the

parts. Make it of cherry, mahogany or black walnut board 5-8 of an inch thick. It should be 7 inches long and 4 inches wide shaped like Fig. 9.

Now, boys, let us see if we can put together what have made. First of all place the Magnet in Electro the left hand center of the base as shown in Fig. 9, and fasten it down with two 1-2 inch screws; then place the armature so that it will come squarely in front of the magnet, and put in the screws fastening down the bracket. Spring the armature a little away from the magnet, to give the spring a little "life" as we say, and then place the contact bracket in such a position



as to allow the point to touch the spring on the platinum piece, as in the cut, and allow the armature to come within about 1-8 inch of the end of the magnet.

With your knife carefully scrape off the insulation of the wire at S, and put it under the screw that holds the armature bracket down. Carry the other wire around the magnet as in the cut, in a shallow groove cut with a knife, and fasten with glue, until

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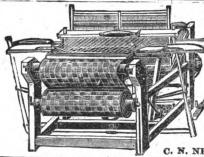
you come to the connecting screw at X, and then solder to the washer under the screw head. Connect the contact bracket with the other connecting screw Y in a similar way. Place the gong in the position indicated in the sketch, bending the hammer stem until it will just clear the gong when the armature touches the magnet by being pressed When in this position the armature spring should just clear the contact bracket, leaving space about as thick as a piece of cardboard.

If you have used care and a little common sense and ingenuity, the application of the battery will ring the bell. If you wish. you can make a box cover for your bell, covering only the working parts. Make it of 1-8 inch material 4 inches square and 1 1-4 inches deep, and after cutting a slot in one side for the hammer stem to work in, put a hook on each side and a pin in each side of the base to hook the cover to. The bell is now ready for use and in the nex chapter I will describe to you, a cheap circuit closer and a home made battery with which you can use the bell you have made as a door bell or arrange it so mother can call you in the morning without using her voice. One of the first questions will be, What makes the armature vibrate? Well, follow me. We will suppose the current comes in at the screw X Fig. 9, and passes over the wire indicated by the

dotted line, to the coils of the magnet, then to the bracket S, and through the armature spring to the contact bracket 2, then through the wire indicated by the dotted line to the other screw Y. The current passing through the magnet, magnetises the iron in the cores, and they in turn draw the armature away from the bracket 2. The instant the current is broken at the point of contact, where the spring touches the bracket, the magnet ceases to be a magnet and the spring kicks the armature back again to its position, only to be drawn up again the instant the spring touches the bracket on its return. breaks are sometimes made at the rate of 500 a minute. A good electric bell sells for a dollar, and with battery and push button, fitted in a neighbor's house would be worth six or eight dollars according to the work required in putting it in. Make use of the knowledge I shall give you and in your spare moments make your pleasure a business and add to your pocket money.

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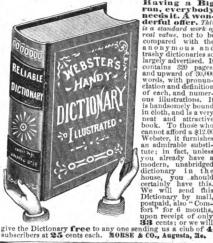
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Auld lang kyne.
Auld ang kyne.
Auld lang kyne.
Auld lang kyne.
Auld lang kyne.
Auld ang Money musk.

A NAUTICAL EXPERIMENT.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY JUDSON

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N acquaintance of mine, Capt Jared Thurston of Patchogue, Long Island, was for many years master of the whaling barque 'Falcon.'' Having accumulated a comfortable fortune to the property of the was well as a comfortable for tune he relinquished sea faring and settled down upon a small farm intending, so he said, to spend the rest of his days ashore. For awhile he was well content to spend his time in feeding chickens, miking the cow. hoeing the corn, and other rural pursuits, but the love of the sea as strong in him, as it invariably is in men of his class, and occasionally he took a short voyage in a coasting vessel much to the discomfort of his wife, who had hoped he was fully weaned from his former vocation. In one of his voyages to Providence, his crazy little craft foundered in a sudden squall, and he, who had braved all sorts of weather in every sea on the globe, came near being drowned almost within sight of home. This so disquieted his wife that she begged him to promise that he never would go upon the ocean again. He did promise, and in these words, "Now wife, if you'll say no more about it, I'll swear never to go upon the water again in any boat, vessel or ship, raft, dug-out, or cance, or any other contrivance in which mortal man ever sailed. There—that covers the ground I guess."

The Captain very soon repented of his promise, but he was an honest man, and true, and kept his word. As time hung heavily upon his hands, he cast about for some employment, something perhaps that should keep him near the sea even if he was forbidden to sail upon it. Now it happened that his farm bordered for half a mile or so upon the bay, and at one point on the shore there was a deep cove or indentation, something like ten acres in extent, very narrow at the mouth and obstructed by huge rocks. Often times the Captain would go down to this cove when the tide was coming in, and watch the water whirling and dashing among the rocks, and occasionally breaking clear over them

ing stream, and was now vainly endeavoring to find his way out. The gates were shut with all speed, and after watching the great fish for a time the Captain started for the village to tell his neighbors of his good fortune.

The news spread rapidly. Somebody connected with the New York Herald happened to be there collecting information concerning a recent shipwreck, and he wrote a glowing (and I regret to say, a somewhat exaggerated) account of the affair to his paper, and before Monday night hundreds, and by Tuesday night, thousands of people had flocked to the place.

Captain Thurston might have realized a small fortune by charging admission to his farm, but he never thought of such a thing. A live whale was no novelty to him, and he couldn't understand why it should be to anybody. To the oft repeated question. "What will you do with him?" he always replied, "Cut him fin and bile him." In the course of time the excitement died away. George Washington (as the Captain had named the whale) had fewer and fewer visitors and finally none.

At every tide the Captain was in the habit of going down to the dam and partially opening the gates to renew the water, and in course of time the whale got in the way of coming into the sluiceway whenever he saw the Captain warking the windlass. On one occasion the Captain sat down upon a timber that crossed the sluice and tapped George with his foot. As the creature did not seem to mind, the Captain slid off and stood up on its back, and finally walked back and forth as only an experienced whaleman could have done upon the fifteen feet or so of exposed surface. While the Captain was looking down at George, prodding him with his cane, and wondering how many barrels of oil he would make, the creature had quietly backed out of the sluiceway and was now swimming slowly and smoothly along toward the could guide his strange set im way seem to a landsman, that he did not speak of it at home either then or for sometime afterwards; he was a good swimmer, and the shore was nowhere very fa

living, while they allowed him to go under two or



three feet in search of food. Second:—A steering apparatus worked with a small wheel which, by acting upon a spur near George's tail or rudder, caused him to turn his tail in the required direction. Third:—A car or saddle, which was modeled, so the Captain told me, after the appliances which are used in elephant riding in India. Fourth:—A sort of compartment or large chest in which to carry clothing and supplies.

in the first experiment he had completed the whole outfit and was ready to take his irst sea trip. His wife, who was always intent upon ter domestic affairs, had noticed his absorbed and itudious manner, but had attributed it to solicitude the new mill which he had intended to build, and moreover, unlike many women, she was not in the least inquisitive or fussy. One day after dinner are said to her. "Mate," (he often called her by this

odd title) "what d'ye think of my going to sea a

odd title) "what d'ye think of my going to sea a short trip?"
"Why, Cap'n, you can't go. You promised me solemn sure you'd never go on the water again."
"Well, no, I didn't say just that. I said I wouldn't go in any kind of a craft in which mortal man had ever sailed, and I aint going to; but I've got George Washington hitched up in harness, he drives swift as a locomotive and smooth as ile, and I'm going to sea with him, or I'm a Dutchman."
Of course Mrs. Thurston begged and prayed him to give up this crazy scheme, but it was of no avail. She always had bowed to her husband's will and she had to do so at this time.

with nim, or I'm a Dutchman."

Of course Mrs. Thurston begged and prayed him to give up this crazy scheme, but it was of no avail. She always had bowed to her husband's will and she had to do so at this time.

In the course of the next week, the Captain took several short trips at sea and they were novel and splendid experiences. At first George was somewhat restive, trying to plunge and roll over like a skittish colt, but the Captain with the intimate knowledge of whale nature afforded by his long experience, and the addition of one or two safeguards to his harness, succeeded in directing George's movements with perfect certainty, so that, after a trip at sea of a hundred miles accomplished inside of five hours, he guided himself back through the sluiceway into the mill pond as easily as one would guide a well broken horse into his stable.

Captain Thurston's neighbors called him crazy, but that is always the outery when one does, something that never has been done before. Newton and Fulton were deemed lunatics in their day you know, and many very worthy people will not believe to-day in the discoveries of Bell and Edison.

As a matter of fact, Thurston was as sane as I am. During a recent visit at Patchoguc, George Washington was harnessed up and I myself had the great pleasure of a voyage with him.

We started about daylight, went out into the sound, passed Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, Cape Cod, and isless of Shoals (going between Star Island and Appledore, where many boats put out to chase us, but we went away from them like a shot, George's speed in deep water being about a mile a minute). We bore away through smooth water for Mount Desert, which we had just sighted, when up came the Cunard steamer Scythia on the horizon. We made for her, and although she had all steam on, and was going very fast, we ran twice around her close along side much to the delight of the passengers who asked us to report the ship and say all well aboard, which we did. We now made straight for home, where we arrived in the evenin

WISDOM IN WIGS.

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HE first wig was not worn to cover a Still the instinct must have been a savage one for it has always appertained to

> history. The South Sea Islanders are among the most ingenious wig makers, and structures of false hair of elaborate shapes are found on the mummies in the Egyptian tombs.

The earliest wigs extant to-day are beautifully made of hair. They can be seen in the Egyptian departments in both the British and Berlin museums, and are fully 3,000 years

British and Berlin museums, and are fully 3,000 years old.

Xenophon states that Astyages, the last of the Median kings wore a wig, and it was nearly 600 years before Christ that this monarch got his great fright from the interpretation of a dream, and tried to outwit the oracles.

Livy, Ovid, Juvenal, Martial, Propertius, Plutarch, Seutonius, all allude to wigs, so that even the most ancient Romans must have known the art of making them and the wearing of them.

Scholars in their researches find that such headgear was worn in the days of the earliest Assyrians, for, on the famous sculptures many of the figures are depicted with their heads so covered.

The wig as a fashion, however, came into vogue as many another fashion has done.

Every one knows the origin of the colored shirt and white collar fad which so many super-fashionable young men effect—how the Prince of Wales got drenched when out hunting one day and his host gave him a clean colored shirt but had no collar to match it, so that his Royal Highness appeared at lunch with a white collar above his colored shirt. The next week all London was wearing white collars above figured shirt fronts, and the news was cabled to New York.

Now the wig, as a civilized fashion, came in much the same way.

Henry III of France, a weak and useless king, the brother of the notorious Charles, who is only remembered on account of the massacre of St. Bartholomew, fell ill and lost his hair. To hide this failing the king had a wig made, upon which all the Court, the thick haired as well as thin, took to wearing wigs out of compliment to the king.

Louis XIII wore a wig for the same reason, and from that time to the French revolution wigs were the universal fashion in France. And since then as mow France set the styles for all the world, wigs were worn everywhere. In the days of the French revolution they were from edo which were despised as Court corruptions.

Louis XIV carried the powdering of the wig to surface a great extent that for full dress the entire Court ap-

among the elegances which were despised as courteorruptions.

Louis XIV carried the powdering of the wig to such a great extent that for full dress the entire Court appeared in white hair.

In the days of Queen Elizabeth wigs were very common in England, and the virgin queen is said to have possessed many of them of many styles.

Mary Stuart, the ill-fated Queen of the Scots, brought the fashion to Scotland when, as the widow of Francis, she returned to her cold native country. Mary Staart, the ill-fated Queen of the Scots, brought the fashion to Scotland when, as the widow of Francis, she returned to her cold native country. It is probable that one of the reasons for the great difference of opinion which exists, alike among historians and painters, in regard to the real appearance of the famous Mary Stuart, may be directly traced to the fact that she had many wigs. It is said that even on the scaffold she wore borrowed locks.

The wig in England reached its greatest vogue in the days of good Queen Anne. At that time little boys wore them to school, and there, as well as in France, no person with any pretense to position thought of appearing in his own hair.

In 1724, the business of the wig maker was an exacting one; for example, a London maker advertised the following list—all of which were worn at that time—full bottomed tyes, full bobbs, ministers' bobs, naturals, half-naturals, Grecian flyes, curley roys, airey levants, quperukes, and bagg wigs.

In the early part of George III's reign false hair began to disappear from the heads of private individuals, although the wig is still worn in England as the badge of some public offices. To-day, the speaker of the House of Commons, the Lord High Chancellor, both wear the full bottomed wig, and smaller tye wigs are worn by Judges and barristers.

The full bottomed wig consists of two, long broad tabs falling low on the breast, down either side of the face, and covered with twenty or more rows of flat, formal curls. These wigs are rarely made of real hair—silk, and even horse hair being used instead.

In the time of its greatest vogue the wig was an article of extravagance to the gallants of the Court. While three guineas, or about \$15, was the ordinary price for a head of false hair, as high as \$700 was paid.

Among the Roman Emperors who wore wigs was Commodius, that most unworthy son of good Emperor Aurelins, who was a fon as well as events.

Lampridius relates that Commodius wore a magnifi-cent wig highly perfumed and sprinkled with gold dust. It was probably a blonde wig because from the earliest days blonde wigs were popular with the Romans, who bought the hair of the Germans for that purpose.

Romans, who bought the hair of the Germans for that purpose.

The only time that wigs were worn in this country was for a short period at the close of the 18th and at the opening of the 19th century.

To-day there is a tendency in dressing the hair to return to the Grecian simplicity, and wigs are only made for those who have to conceal bare polls, or for use in the theatre.

made for those who have to conceal bare polls, or for use in the theatre.

It may be interesting to know that now a well made wig of natural hair costs in the vicinity of \$35.

Although the wig is somewhat barbaric in origin and in appearance, it is worn to-day by able men as the badge of wisdom.

Summer Law School at Chautauqua.

Among the courses of study offered by the Chautau-qua management for the coming Summer sessions at Chautauqua are courses in law. This is somewhat of a new departure, but is one that will meet with favor on the part of very many who visit, that resort for study and recreation during July and August. The courses, we understand, will not consist merely in lectures, but will embrace thorough class-room work, and cover the many branches of the law, both for students preparing for examination for admission to the bar and for lawyers reviewing. The work is to be under the personal instruction of William C. Sprague, the managing instructor of The Sprague Correspond-ence School of Law, Detroit, Michigan.

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1. By sending a postal with your name and address 2. To Post-office Box 1632, Boston, Massachusetts,

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ing or cooking. For many purposes this Lamp Chimney Stove is far superior and a thousand times more convenient than an expensive oil or vapor stove. For the Dining Room in Summer, shops and offices, it is unsurpassed. For the Sick Room it is indispensable.

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COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. Address,



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Every Shut-In who will get up a club of five or more yearly subscribers for Comfort at twenty-five cents apiece, may send us ten cents for each subscriber, and keep the other fifteen for herself.

The only condition given is that you must furnish satisfactory proof that you are a Shut-In. Get your physician and clergyman, or two other responsible persons, to sign a statement saying they have known you (and how long), that you are an invalid, unable to work, and that you properly belong to the Shut-In Circle.

Circle.

No club will be received of less than five subscribers, and these must all be sent at one time, together with the amount necessary for the club.

Money may be sent by money-order, postal-note, check, draft, registered-letter, or in postage stamps.

Never send money loose in a letter.

Try among your friends, meighbors and relatives. Your children at school or in-factories, or your servant-girls among their friends can bring you names of new subscribers. Take it up seriously, as a matter of business, and you will succeed.

All correspondence for this department should be directed to Sunshine Circle, care of Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

EAR FRIENDS:

By the time this letter reaches you, again the wonderful miracle will have taken place, that miracle to which we are so accustomed that we take it as a matter of course, and are never surprised by it-life out of death; the resurrection of summer out of its wintry grave. Surely when we see the dull, cold earth bursting forth into blossom and beauty, death should be robbed of all its terrors. That exquisite poet preacher, William C. Gannett, said iff one of his most hopeful and cheer

"Thank God, then, friends, for the resurrection thoughts which the spring months bring to us! We die to live again. We die that we may live again. Nothing is quickened save it dis. Mortality is the condition of all immortality The opening spring prints it off on every hill-side in illuminated text of leaf and flower."

Let us then take fresh courage as we behold the renewal of life and beauty all about us. Prouble and suffering cannot last forever. Out of the dark and painful hours of your life blossoms of hope and gladness can spring just as easily as summer bursts forth from cheerless winter. The following verses by John W. Chadwick I am sure will give you a pleasant

"As tarry not the flowers of June
For all the ill the heavens can do,
And to their inmost natures true
The birds rejoice in sweetest tune,
"So, Father, shall it be with me;
And whether winds blow foul or fair,
Through want and woe, and toil and care,
Still will I struggle up to Thee,

"That though my winter days be long, And brighter skies refuse to come, My life no less may sweetly bloom, And none the less be full of song."

And none the less be full of song."

Anna Ripley, Morristown, Minn., writes:

"This week I received several back numbers of Comfort through the thoughtful kindness of a friend. I have been reading the letters, and I think your corner is rightly named. I had hoped to spend my life amongst the Freedmen but I had only two happy years of work in my chosen field. Now it seems probable that the rest of my life will be spent in this room. I have spinal disease, and suffer severely at times. I can do but little sewing, but I enjoy reading and writing to my friends when I am able. My room is pleasant, and I have a number of thriving plants in my window, amongst which my pet canary, Bennie, is free to fly about all he chooses. I close by quoting the precious promise, 'Lo I am with you alway, even unto the end.'"

V. E. Johnson, Lena, Ill., writes:

V. E. Johnson, Lena, Ill., writes:

"I have been a Shut-In for over four years.

Am able now to walk about, which I feel very
grateful for. I am young in years, but I feel
that I can fully sympathize with you all. I
would be greatly encouraged to have the
friends write to me. Please do not forget me."

friends write to me. Please do not forget me."

MRS. MARIA SOUTHER, West Levant, Me., writes:

"Is there room for me in your Sunshine Circle? I have been an invalid for eighteen years. I haven't lain down in bed natural for ten years; have four pillows and half sit up. I have heart disease and nervous debility. Will some of the dear friends send me a ray of sunshine to help brighten my life? I would be glad of scraps of any kind for quilts. I can sew a few minutes at a time. Please accept my deepest sympathy, dear suffering ones."

LAURA STRONG HENDERSON, Rusk Co., Texas,

writes:

"I am confined to my bed, and have been for almost five years, suffering day and night. I have been lying on one side for four years. I am twenty years old and have been afflicted since a little over twelve. I am willing to bear it the best I can, and thankful it is no worse, but I do wish I could do some good in the world. Dear ones, we are shut in from many pleasures in this world but I hope we are better preparing a home in Heaven. We are never so afflicted but what we have something to be thankful for, and I have a kind father, mother, brothers and sisters to take care of me; but it grieves me to see my parents who have always worked for me still working now when they are old, 'and I can do nothing to help

them. Let us try to trust in God and say, 'Thy will be done.'"

I wish much I could send some special word I wish much I could send some special word of comfort to so young and patient a sufferer. I can understand how very hard it must be to lie helpless and see father and mother working. Can you not, dear Laura, help them a little, and divert your own mind by getting up a Comport club according to the directions you will see at the head of this department? This is work the most bedridden sufferers can do by asking the kind friends who visit them to subscribe, and to aid in getting other subscribers. I think one of the most important lessons we have to learn in ill health is to make the most of small opportunities that are thrown in our way. I hope I shall hear soon from many of our Shut-In friends that they have taken advantage of this chance to help themselves.

Mrs. M. J. Pierson, 1935 South 17th St., Terre-

this chance to help themselves.

MRS. M. J. Pierson, 1935 South 17th St., Terre-Haute, Ind., writes:

"I am an invalid confined to my room, and most of the time to my bed. Can do very little work. Sometimes can write, then again it will be weeks that I cannot. Have been a Shut-In a great part of the time for ten years. Should be glad to get letters of comfort from the friends. I have one room and live by myself, and a little grandchild nine years old helps me. I have a great many cancelled stamps. Will some one tell me what they are good for? Many nights I lie all night awake. My prayer is, 'I am afflicted very much; quicken me, O Lord, according to Thy word.'"

MRS. ANNE GRAHAM, Greensburg, Ky., desires

MRS. ANNE GRAHAM, Greensburg, Ky., desires worsted pieces, crazy work, etc. Has been a Shut-In eighteen years.

ELSIE HEATH, care of Mrs. Bell, Cecil, Pa., Box 57, wishes scraps to sew, or something for wrapper.

Miss Florence A. Langley, West Levant, Maine, is a great sufferer, and would be thankful for pieces of silk, wool, or print for quilts which she can make and sell.

MRS. N. MARLING, Eliott, Mo., will send reading matter, flower seeds, a cutting of weeping willow, in exchange for sea shells.

MRS. M. B. FRENCH, Thurman, Wisconsin, sends a letter of thanks for the "heart cheering epistles the readers of Comfort have thought it no trouble to send an afflicted sufferer."

I have received so many letters asking only for financial aid it makes me sad. In our April number an explanation was given why such aid is impossible, and these applicants will surely see that, under the circumstances, their letters cannot be published. It was through our deep sympathy, and our wish to benefit these traffortunate Sbut-Ins that the offer which stands at the head of this department was made. One applicant for aid said in a pathetic letter that even ten cents was a great help; "there are," she wrote, "so many things I can do with ten cents." The opportunity offered by the publishers of Comfort will enable this poor woman, I trust, to earn a good many dimes, and the effort to do it will give her a new source of interest.

And to all of you dear Shut-Ing who was

fort to do it will give her a new source of interest.

And to all of you, dear Shut-Ins, who need little luxuries you are not able to procure I would say, the test of how much we want anything is always our willingness to work for it—to make some effort on our own part. One writer says, "A person is never so hedged up but there is some one thing he can do. We may not be able to do as we would, but some other way will appear." It is not often great opportunities come to us. The secret of success, I learned some time ago, is to take advantage of small opportunities. Little efforts often lead to greater results than we can foresee.

I have laid stress upon this because it is the only way in which Comport can offer the financial aid so large a number have asked for; and if those who have requested it are in carnest in their desire for such aid they will show it by doing what they can themselves. I think the way is made very clear, but if you do not understand it write and ask any questions you please, and I will answer you with pleasure. Faber in one of his beautiful hymns says:

"When obstacles and trials seem
Like prison walls to be

"When obstacles and trials seem Like prison walls to be, I do the little I can do, And leave the rest to Thee."

To do the little we can do, and do it faithfully, is the most valuable lesson in life we can learn. To be on the watch continually for small opportunities to help others, and to help ourselves is the highest duty and privilege of sick and well, alike.

SISTER MARGARET.

DAVID KILLED GOLIAH

CATAPULT OR POCKET GUN.

So the idea is old but a perfect modern sling at this price has not been made before. This has great force and strength. Made of a solid piece of rubber, with cup to hold the projectile. Requires no powder, no caps; is neatly finished, durable, and can be carried in the pocket, as it weighs only three ounces. Will shoot shot or bullets with accuracy and force, and with a little practice will kill birds on the wing or bring down a squirrel from the highest tree. It is the best thing out for taxidermists, as it will kill without spoiling game and makes no report. A boy can have more genuine pleasure in a day with a Catapulé than with anything else made. The loop, strap, pocket and pulling tip are all moulded in one solid piece of the best kind of rubber. Enclose 15 cents for a three months subscription to "Comfort" and we send one free, postpaid. Boys make money selling them. One dozen sent for \$1.00. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

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HOLDS \$1.00

HOLDS \$1.00

The simplest, smallest and most practical Pocket Banks for the price yet made. One third smaller than any other bank. Has no screws or bolts to catch in the pocket. Your money is as safe in this bank as any national bank and deposits cannot be withdrawn until the capital has been fully paid in. When bank is filled turn bottom piece from left toright. This bank has met with great favor and is the handsomest cheap pocket bank in the market. Made in three sizes, for Pennies, Nickels and Dimes. Either size only 15 cents each, postpaid. Given free as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers at 25 cts. each. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Indestructable Stuffed Toys, Free!



articles together with three months trial subscription to "Comfort," fifteen cents each. Four Kittens reckoned as one of other articles, Five of any one or assorted articles for fifty cents. One dozen, one dollar, postpaid. They all come in bright Lithograph colors, heavy goods, and are a great success of the World's Fair year. A delight to youth, middle and old age. The only reason of the low price, is that people stuff them and sew up after receiving, thus they go by mail for low postage. Order at once if you want to either make money or amuse and instruct the young. Address

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With this wonderful invention you can play any tune, imitate birds and animals, bag-pipes, Truch and Judy, etc., etc. The Kazoo is the play at a moment's notice, without hand play at a moment's notice, without hand play at a moment's notice, without hand can be play at a moment's notice, without hand end when used by minstrel and specialty artists, quartettes or choruses, it invariably receives repeated encores. Furnishes good dancing music for excursions, picnics, etc. Superior to anything else for clubs, street parades, etc. Used as a mouthpice-on brass or tin horms, a good hand can be organized with little practice, as the keys require no fingering.

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"The popularity of the Kazoo as a musical instrument at attested by the fact that Kazoo quartette at the City Hall entertainment received was recalled six times, and the Kazoo chorus at the Genesee Normal School entertainment received four encores."—"Post Express," Rochester, N. Y.

"A portion of the afternoon's pleasure and amusement was due in no small degree to a small musical instrument, called the 'Kazoo, with which the musically inclined gentlemen of the party performed in a creditable manner the popular songs of the day." "It was this little instrument that formished music for the march the total content of movelty given it by its inventor."—"Boston Journal."

Price of Kazoo, 12 cents three for 30 cents. By mail, post-paid. One dozen, by express, \$1.

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EUREKA COIN HOLDER.



It holds over \$5 of silver coin in half dollars, quarters, dimes and nickles. Small, compact and convenient. It will last for a lifetime. A person using one of these holders always has his coin in a compact shape. He can make change in one-half the time usually required, and avoid all liability of dropping or losing it. The merest movement of your thumb and finger pushes the desired coin into your hand, and another one of the same denomiation immediately takes its place. You can readily make change in winter without removing your gloves. The box is small and portable, the coins being arranged in the most compact manner possible, no superfluous, space being wasted. Simple in its construction, and warranted never to get out of order. The above cut is about one-fourth size. It is made from strong metal, highly polished, and possesses every essential quality of a good pocket Coin-Holder. Price 15 cents; two for 25 cents, by mall, postpaid. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

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tachment, and gostees wax, allowing them to be fastened to, or rewith ease. The se wax allowing them to be fastened to, or rewith ease. The se moved from the face with ease. The se and the outlay of a few cents every boy can have his own circus.

Mustaches and goatees, — gray, red, light, medium, or dark brown and black, price 7 cents each, four for 25 cents, or 60 cents per dozen. Goatees, 5 cents each, four for 15 cents, or 40 cents per dozen. Beards or Whiskers — white, gray, red, light, medium, or dark brown, and black. Price, Full Beard 60 cents; Whiskers with Mustache, 60 cents; four of either for \$2.00. Any of above goods mailed, postpaid, on receipt of price. In ordering, send small lock of hier or state color desired. Address Morse & Co., Box 330, Augusta, Maine

EVERY LADY HER OWN DRESSMAKER. The COMFORT A, B, C DRESS-CUT-TING SYSTEM, Free, as a Premium. Easiest to understand. Best and cheapest. Gives the quickest results with 1-ast trouble. No figuring. No calculations. No blunders. Most correct shape of any system ever devised. Every lady can learn more at a clance, using this system, than by many hours' study of others. The first will secure its adoption. It is equally valuable in he home or to the regular dressmaker.

Gives full instructions how every girl and woman can make for herself tasteful and well-fitting dresses, waists, and basques with the greatest ease and speed. Most scientific and exact results with the least measuring.

HERE IS WHAT WE GIVE:

One Regulation Size Differential Chart,
One Dozen Sheets Pattern Paper,
One Well-made Steel Tracing Wheel,
One Regular Dresgmaker's Tape Measure.

It is a heavily mounted chart over two yards long and two feet wide, having the different measurements all lined out for all kinds of garments, with Bust Measures from 25 to 46 inches. You get the Bust Measure of the person you want to cut a garment for and that one being the ONLY measurement required. Now it requires No Draffing, for all the different sizes have been a piece of common paper and tracing along the line with a lead pencil. All you then have to do is to entry your goods by the pattern you have thus manufactured yourself—that is all there is to it. But remember, you will find everything on the chart in shape, style and build of garments you want to use, and if you have old wearing appared you want to make over into stylish fits, you go by the same system in changing them.

It Costs no More to have a STYLISH FITTING GALMENT than a poor one, and you actually save 50 per cent on goods by using our system, it has been studied down to such a fine point by experienced draughtsmen. So it requires no mathematical calculations on your part at all (all other systems require a good deal), you just go by the plans all laid out for you. You will find it so smple, complete and perfecced draughtsmens and departments that it can but be acknowledged to be a requisite in EVERY FAMILY, while ALL DTHER CHARTS are so complicated and high-priced that they are entirely worthless to any but the most experienced dressmakers. Ours makes Every One a dressmaker in ten minutes. The regular price of charts alone is \$2.00.

But to every one who will get up a club of six subscribers for Complete at 25 cents now

alone is \$2.00.

But to every one who will get up a club of six subscribers for Comfort at 25 cents per year, each in advance, we will send one of these Comfort Outfits FREE, we paying all express and mailing charges. By showing a copy of Comfort to your neighbors, friends, and acquaintance, you can easily get up a club in one evening; for COMFORT, with its many improvements and new, original, copyrighted departments, now needs only to be seen to be appreciated. To those who do not care to go to the trouble of getting a club, we will send COMFORT for one year, together with one of these Outfits (all express and mailing charges paid by us) upon receipt of one dollar. This offer holds good for three months only.

Ladies can make lots of more weights each to the continuous contents only.

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.

S is well known, the State of California has long held the belt for furnishing startling facts concerning the effects of the most wonderful climate on earth; and now she comes to the front with the champion hen-hatcher of the age.

About two

About two years ago a man with a mystery made a silent settlement on a small ranch in the San Joaquin Valley. Shortly after his arrival, there came several car-loads of corrugated iron, accompanied by a gang of laborers. These speedily erected a series of curious circular buildings with pointed roofs, upon which the other inhabitants of the valley looked with great curiosity, but as the owner an

CHICKENS." swered every question by a sking snother, they soon concluded he must be a Yankee, and, therefore, let him alone. Among themselves, however, all sorts of wild guesses were made-that he had opened a mine under cover of these buildings, that he was going to set up a gas factory, a moonshine distillery, a cyclorama of the Battle of Bull-Run, or even a private lunatic asylum.

"SPRING

But after a year had elapsed, a good deal of light was thrown upon the mystery by the quiet Yankee commencing to make large shipments of dressed fowls to the San Francisco markets. These chickens soon came into great demand, owing, it is claimed, to a peculiarly attractive flavor, and the epicures and high-livers of the town fairly went wild over them. On the bills of fare of the most expensive and fash ionable restaurants, such as The Poodle Dog, and the most exclusively high-toned clubs, like the Bohemian and Pacific, "San Joaquin Spring Chickens" figured as a particularly dainty dish.

The thrifty Yankee prospered from the word go and as he refused absolutely to sell any eggs, no one could hatch out a rival brood. He built himself a beautiful home with the proverbial Queen Anne front and Mary Ann rear attachment, a private race track and all that sort of thing, and his newly made friends were always welcome. But none of them ever saw the inside of the grim, windowless iron buildings, and on the subject of chickens their host was as dumb as a wooden Indian.

There still remained another mystery-shipments at regular intervals of strong iron hooped boxes, which were conveyed with great secrecy to the railroad station and sent East by express. It was clear that these did not contain dressed fowls; for, ever California hens won't keep outside of a refrigerator car after they are once defunct.

This thing might have gone on forever had it not been for a little accident, which shows that even an insignificant tramp may upset the best laid plans-or eggs-that ever were hatched. All this particular tramp did was to steal a ride and get himself run over on the way East. This caused the train to be side tracked, a rear collision occurred, in which the express car was ditched, and, among other mishaps, a nysterious iron bound box was smashed. It was addressed to a man down in Pennsylvania, and contained 48 1-2 dozen of crows' heads.

A bit of quiet investigation showed that a little Yankee thrift, together with scientific experiments in hen-hatching and cross-breeding, had produced a fowl that proved a fortune in feathers, and that what the epicures of San Francisco had been smacking lips over was, in reality, a new fangled kind of domesticated crow.

The proprietor of this novel business had stations in the East in various States where the bounty on crows' heads was high, and, while at one end of the line he sold dressed spring chickens at a \$1 apiece; at the other he disposed of crows' heads at 50c. per scalp.

enterprising hen ranchman disappeared bag and baggage the day before the facts came out, and it is now rumored that he is located in Chicago, with a contract in his inside pocket for furnishing certain of World's Fair restaurants with patent sandwiches, which, it is strongly hinted, will bear in

Democratic visitors to Chicago will, therefore do well to insist upon having their chickens served with heads on, as their days for eating crow are over-for four years at least.

If the World's Fair should prove a disappointment, it will be because it does not, up to the pres ent writing, contain an exhibit of artificial, self-adjusting, razor-edged, boarding-house teeth, such as visitors to summer resorts have been praying for ever since enterprising butchers began cutting steaks from between cow's horns, and Yankee ingenuity patented the India rubber pie-crust.

Until some jaw-smith invents a vest-pocket edition of this useful adjunct to human happiness, foreign friends will kindly eat here and die at home.

ALTHOUGH the Fair is slow in opening, it is already evident that distant relatives who live in Chicago will be more distant than ever this summer to their country cousins.

It will not be the first time that city people who just dote on their country relatives during the fresh vegetable and fruit season, are quite unable to re-member them after they get back to town; or, if they do, the spare room is "already occupied," which makes them feel so sorry.

MONG other discoveries which Columbus never dreamed of, but for which he is nevertheless responsible, are two bran new diseases. They are caused by licking the gum stickum with which the new Columbian postage stamps are plastered on the envelopes, and are known to the profession as Shriveled

tongue and Paralyzed palate. The symp-toms are a peculiar dryness in the mouth accompanied by wild longing for something wet. cording to the official

Balloon Society, in handling the correspondence of a medium sized business house somebody has to lick in the course of a month, one and three-fourths acres of "Landings," half an acre of "Discoveries," to say nothing of the ground covered at the "Court of Isabella" and the extra licks on "The Savages."

In the advanced stages of these new disorders, suf ferers are said to become totally speechless, and Eli Perkins may now be expected to say that many merchants are already getting their wive's mothers to come down to the office to stamp their letters.

> EOPLE with poor memories bave tried a thousand and one devices to remind them of things they don't want to forget. One of the



oldest is to tie a knot in the handkerchief. and this simple little scheme has led to one of the most ingenious inventions of modern times. is the Fringed Night Shirt, and visitors to Chicago should be on the lookout for it. It seems that a member of the Boston Society for the Propagation of Personal Pride, who is never so brilliant as when he is asleep has oftentimes been

struck so forcibly by an idea as to wake right up in the middle of the night. Being of a thrifty make-up this man naturally wants to hold on to everything that comes his way, and hates to part with even his own thoughts. For years it was his custom, there fore, whenever an idea awoke him, to draw from the pocket of his night robe a handkerchief, carefully knot it, and go peacefully to sleep again

But ideas began to multiply, and so did his pockets until at last he found himself literally tied up in knots upon awaking in the morning. It was in this emergency that his young wife came to the rescue with the new memory maker, that will go down into history with a blaze of glory. Instead of the multitude of pockets and handkerchiefs, it is now only necessary, when a new thought is born, to tie it into the fringe with a lover's knot. As might be expected, the device is-like woman herself-ornamental as well as useful, and the romantic halo which hangs dreamy negligee unrayelling the bright ideas from the forget-me-knots, is said to be too sweetly sacred for the outside world. In other words, when the fringed night shirt comes in the knotted kerchief

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tacks, and all derangements of the liver, stomach, and bowels are prevented, relieved, and cured. They're tipy, sugar-coated granules, a compound of refined and concentrated vegetable extracts—the smallest in size, the easiest to take, and the cheapest pill you can buy, for they're guaranteed to give satisfaction, or your money is returned. You pay only for the good you get.

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IN HIS NAME.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY SARAH M. MAVERICK.

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MAMA'S baby," said a childish voice just behind me, and I turned with a start to see a wee bit of a girl stand-

> ing right by my chair. "Me mama's darling," she repeated, nodding the pretty head.

"I should think so," I ex-

claimed involuntarily. "Yes, mama love baby," she

said again, leaning against me.

"I don't see who could help it," I said to myself as I lifted her into my lap. What a lovely little creature she was! Her dainty head was covered with light, fluffy curls, like im-

prisoned sunbeams, and just now the large, dark eyes were filled with a wistful longing that struck a chord of sympathy in my heart.

"Where is mama?" I asked.

"My mama gone way up there," she said, pointing to the sky. "My mama so sick, and she tell me to tome to her sometime, so I wunned away this morning, and I'se so tired 'tause I tan't find her. Fought maybe you'd dive me somefing to cat. I'se drefful hungy," this with a sigh, and a folding of the tiny hands that was extremely touching.

Looking ct her more closely, I saw indications of fatigue and travel that I had not noticed before, and thought it best not to ask further explanations till she had rested. "Of course I will, you darling," I said, as I laid her on the lounge, and kissed her.

"You dess like my mama," was the grateful answer the tears springing to her eyes; and as I turned away I heard a weary little sob that made my heart ache. She ate well, however, and after she had slept I took her in my arms again and asked:

"What is your name, little one?"

"Mama's baby," she answered quickly.

"Yes, dear, I know. But everybody has a name, and mama must have given you one. Can't you think?

An anxious look came into the sweet face, and she seemed to be trying to recall something that had passed from her mind. f'Mama used to tall me 'darling' and 'Goldie,' tause my hair so yellow," she said slowly, "and sometimes she talled me 'Birdie.'" "That's it," I said. "You mcan Bertie for Bertha."

"No, no," very positively, "dess 'Birdie,' "and with that I had to be satisfied.

Where she came from only the dear Lord who gave His angels charge over her could tell. I wondered how she ever got here without attracting attention, but I gathered from her talk that, with a child's instinctive desire for protection, she had followed a lady into the cars, and people seeing them together would naturally suppose it was all right. When the train stopped Birdie left it, supposing the lady was coming, "but," she added with a grieved look, "she didn't tome at all. She dess

ent wight on, and left me."

The poor little thing had walked from the depot, and seeing my door wide open came in to rest.

I hunted her clothing over carefully, but not a mark nor a letter could I find. There was nothing but a locket hung on a fine gold chain, and which I had not at first perceived as she wore it under her dress. It contained a ringlet of nut-brown hair, and the pictured face of a young woman, the eyes being like those of my little wanderer.

"That's my mama," said the child, kissing it lovingly, "and me must do find her now."

"No, darling," I answered, "you can't find her if you go the wide world over," and, very gently, I explained the sad mystery of death to the poor baby, who listened with eyes full of trouble, and, when I paused, she asked very low, "me never see my mama den, at all?"

"Not in this world, but up in Heaven your mama is surely waiting for you, and you must wait patiently till the Lord sends His angel to take you to her."

"And will a truly angel tome for me?" she asked, her eyes brightening.

"Yes, Birdie, if you are mama's good, patient baby. Some day he will surely come for you."

"Me stay wight here, and wait for angel," she replied, and I had no fear then that she would run away from me. "Haven't you a papa?" I asked.

"Yes, me dot papa," she answered readily. "Papa was seep on the lounge, and I tissed him 'dood-bye' and

tamed away.' "But papa will want his little girl. Don't you love him

"Yes, me love my papa, 'tause he's so dood, but I want

my mama.

I kissed the quivering lips, and hushed her to sleep again, resolved that this stray lamb should not leave me till I found the fold in which she belonged. I advertised, and tried every way to restore her to anxious friends, but all to no purpose, and after three months had passed I gave it up, and accepted her as a gift from God. And a very precious one too. I was all alone in the world, with plenty of means to make life comfortable, and this little waif should share it with me.

'Birdie' was a fitting name, for her movements, as she flashed in and out of the house, and around the grounds, reminded me of a bird more than anything else. And when she sang it was like listening to the soft low notes of the wood thrush. She was singularly good, and a very happy little thing, but she never forgot her mother, and

she was always waiting.
One night, as we were sitting by the window watching the moon rise, she suddenly asked:

"Aunty Sade, do you spose God has fordotten me?"
"Why, Birdie, why do you ask me such a question

as that?" I answered in surprise.

"Tause He must know I'se tired waiting for His angel to tome. Please ask Him to hurry Aunty Sade."

My heart sank within me, as I thought He might pity my poor baby so much He would take heed to her cry, but I told her how we must bide His time, and that she would surely meet mama up there.

I noticed, as the fall season changed into the winter time, that she drooped. She sang less, and her step grew slower, and after a time she stayed in her little cot the best part of the day. Our doctor said she had no disease. It was simply an ever growing weakness brought on by her intense longing for the mother love beyond the skies.

One day, as I was rocking her, she put up her little hand to my face, with the caressing touch I loved so well, and, as though she knew she hurt me, she said softly:

"Aunty Sade, don't cry, but God's angel will tome for me pretty soon. My mama wants me, and he's tomin' fore long now."

Just at daybreak I was awakened from a light doze by her joyful cry. "Aunty Sade, my mama's tome. bye," and my treasure was gone. Ah me! I felt as though half my life had gone with her.

Down in the cemetery on that tiny grave I laid an open album of pure white marble. Set into it on one

side was the locket, open at the pictured face, and underneath the ringlet of dark hair, and a bright curl from the little one's head. On the other side the words,

"Mama's Baby," and underneath "In HisName."

I thought it might be the means of clearing up the mystery, and I was not mistaken.

The next summer a gentleman called. He was greatly agitated, and as soon as I came to the door he exclaimed. "Miss Nelson, I was walking in the cemetery, and I came across a little grave with this upon it," holding up the marble album. "They told me at the undertaker's that you had taken in a little child, and, when she died, you marked her grave, hopingthat those who were searching for her might see it, and so learn her fate. Tell me about her please."

I knew him. It was baby's father come too late to claim his own.

I told him all I knew, and he, in turn, gave me the history of her little life before she came to me. Their name was Lester, and she had given her own name correctly when she called herself "Birdie," but her pet name was her favorite, and oftenest used. From her birth the great love and sympathy between mother and child was remarked upon, and when that mother lay sick unto death Birdie was unconscious for hours-in sympathy, the doctor said, with her mother. After a few weeks she seemed like herself, though sorely griev ing for the mother who never came to her. She had told the child that she was going to Heaven, and that Birdie must follow, and, he said, he remembered that on the morning she left, she came into the sitting-room where he lay on the lounge half asleep. She kissed him, and, as she shut the door, said something about mama which he did not understand. There was nothing unusual in her manner, and, supposing she was with his sister, he made no inquiry for her till noon. Then it was found that she had disappeared, and he had been searching for her all this time.

How he had missed seeing my notices was a mystery, unless it was the Father's will that she should brighten my lonely life, and I make the "waiting for God's angel" more easy, by lighting her path with loving words and tender care. However it be, there is a tiny figure enshrined in my heart, with great sorrowful eyes, and sunbeams for hair, and every time the vision rises before me my soul goes out in an intense longing for,

"The touch of a vanished hand. And the sound of a voice that is still."

Around the World in One Day.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY NEMO BURNET.

Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.



OUNG Peter Jones was tall. lank, bony, red-haired, good. natured, with a face so thickly speckled with freckles, it made one feel as if the real boy was hiding behind them. He lived on a farm where, it

seemed to him, there was always corn to hoe or potatoes to bug. and all the rest of the round of duties on which a boy's time coulp be used up to the exclusion of anything like fun.

He was always busy, for his father was of a stirring turn, and much given to driving and getting the most out of everything and everybody. Poor Peter bugged so many potatoes, and hoed so much

corn, or, if it chanced to be winter, chopped so much wood, that his muscles attained a most wonderful state of perfection, leaving his brain burdened with very little more sense than he was born with.

However, he did fairly well, in an educational way, by listeningly attentively to long conversations between his father and other men, who kept their boys at work while they perched on the fouce or wood-pile and Poter

But of all the things he heard talked of, the one that struck his fancy hardest was going round the world in various ways—walking bicycle-riding, and so on, in so many days He pondered on this matter very deeply, but on the only occasion he ventured to express a wish that he could win a little fame and glory to himself in that way his father promptly lengthened his day's work, by sending him out in the field earlier and keeping him out later, "that his ener-

gies might be well spent," said the old man.

But every morning, while Peter was busy, he would see the sun rise, through the branches of a gigantic tree about a mile east of the farm, and every evening see it go down behind old Bill Brown's big red barn in the west

He thought and thought about it, and finally the sight of a solitary wheelman making a circuit of the world decided him.

Bright and early the next morning he arose from bis bed and, purposely making some little noise to attract attention, was rewarded by hearing the old man, say, "at last that boy has learned how to get up without being called."

Skipping cautiously out of the yard he made a dash for the big tree, and, climbing up to its highest branches, waited the rising of the sun. When it appeared he reached up, seized hold of the top of it, and with a mighty hand spring swung loose from the tree. Heavens! what a scene! The whole United States lay at his feet, with the Atlantic Ocean se close it made him shiver, and the Pacific Ocean just in sight.

He had never been off the farm before, but recognized New York city at once by the bulls and bears on Wall Street, and Chicago by the World's Fair buildings. And there, in the soft morning light, lay the old farm, his neglected hoe lying where he had dropped it the evening before. Ah! with what feelings of joy did he behold the old man peering into every hole and corner on the place, looking for him, he well knew. He almost fancied he could hear that well-known voice, in angry surprise, shricking his name. He laughed so hard he nearly lost his grip on the sun, when he finally saw the old man take up the and laboriously work up one row and down another all day.

His fun had some few drawbacks, but he tried not to mind them much. He wanted to go round the world for glory, and, lo, he was doing it. Towards noon how hot it did get. Whetel hoeing corn was mild along side of it. However, this was his one lark, and he was not disposed to grumble at any

For several hours he noticed, without paying much attention, people in every city and town and all over the country looking towards the sun through smoked glass, but when he saw on top of a big building something which he knew, from pictures he had seen, to be

thing which he knew, from pictures he had seen, to be a telescope, then he knew that everyone was looking at him, and trying to make out what kind of a new spot that was on the sun.

The thought struck terror to his heart. What if the old man should recognize him! Anxiously he looked down in the corn-field. There was the old man shading his eyes with his hand, trying to make him out. Peter's devout hope that he would not have wit enough to use smoked glass, and so increase his chances of detection, were realized. The old man went on with his hoeing.

He wasn't much afraid of being found out, for, especially during the middle of the day, he felt pretty high up. But he would not be a little feeling of solitude dampen his ardor. He knew he was in for a flogging when he got home; so, resolving to have a big day, he serenely hung there, watching bank cashiers on their way to Canada, the solitary wheelm an he had talked with the evening before gliding along the green prairie, sweethearis courting in sly corners, stately ships sailing on the oceans, and the old man hoeing corn.



It was his turn now to look on and enjoy the spectacle of some one else at work.

But all things must end, and, before he dreamed of the day being gone, suddenly the sun began to go dewn behind old Bill Brown's big red barn, and twilight set in.

Horrors! What would he do when night came on? and now he remembered it was the dark of the moon. He became so frightened and trembled so that he nearly fell off into the Pacific Ocean, which was directly under him by this time, but by a strong effort he conquered his feelings sufficiently to hold on and consoled himself by thinking the summer nights were short anyway, and would soon pass. But, oh, how tired he was all at once, and now he could not see the old farm he became suddenly homesick, and, oh, so hungry!

Presently the stars began to come out. It was a perfectly clear night, and he had never seen them so blick before. He was obliged to keep good a lookout and dodge among them to keep from bumping his head, and narrowly missed getting one little shooting star in his eye.

Along after midnight he heard something non and

and dodge among them to keep from comping head, and narrowly missed getting one little shooting star in his eye.

Along after midnight he heard something pop and sizz, and a meteor went flying by so close that the smoke made him self home—corn, potato bugs and all, and was just beginning to cry when suddenly a brilliant display of the aurora began, and the northern lights began to burn. He found they were caused by a torch set in the top of the north pole. These amused him for awhile, but when they faded he was left in total darkness.

for awhite, but when they faded he was left in total darkness.

He wasn't afraid any more, only sleepy. He had to bite his hands and kick his toes against the sun to keep awake, and, never was there a happier boy than young Pete, when the light began to break, and the old tree came in sight. With a shout of joy he made a plunge, it in its branches, scrambled down to the ground, chased merrily across the fields, took up his hoe and went to work.

When he went in to his feasing a bid.

When he went in for his flogging and his breakfast nis parents hardly knew him, for the sun had melted off all his freckles and he no longer looked at you from behind a speckled veil. Also, they were so re-poiced to get their son back, safe and sound, and hear his adventures, that the old man forgot to flog him, and his mather put sugar an inch deep on his bread and butter.

"THE CORSICAN."

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY JOHN ERNEST MCCANN. Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern

NEVER read or hear of a tale of human vengeance that I do not think of 'The Corsi-



The speaker was one of the keepers in the employ of Barnum and Bailey's Circus; the place, the Madison Square Garden; the time, a few days ago.

I had been assigned by the city editor to gather notes in and around the Garden during the stay of the circus, and Moss Davis had been telling me of his adventures during his forty years of circus life, in all parts of the world.

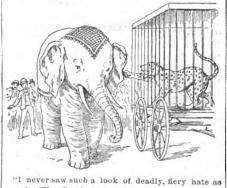
Davis had originally been a costermonger in the Whitechapel district of London, but had drifted away from there, and the precincts of Covent Garden Mar-ket, and his donkey cart, to lead a more adventurous and varied existence. He had served in Astley's, Van Amberg's, Stone and Murray's, Forepaugh's, and now he is with Barnum and Bailey, for the rest of his life. If Davis were an educated man, he might write a book that would be read by every boy in the civilized world, it would be so true and graphic.

He is a short, stocky, thick-set man, with a smooth face, square jaws, and piercing eyes, that are full of courage and resolve. He has wonderful control over animals, and the maddest of elephants fear and respect him.

"But I must forever watch them," he says, "or they would do me to death." An elephant is absolutely the most treacherous thing breathing. Even a rattlesnake will warn before he attacks-an elephant never. In spite of their thick skulls and narrow brains, they have human instincts. No Apache Indian ever waited his opportunity to be avenged with more patience and cunning than the elephant. And that reminds me of a story, which you can put in your paper, if you wish. Give me a cigar.

"It was a good many years ago. We were showing in Paris. It was the opening night, and the tent was crowded. The bell rang, and the great procession started around the enclosure. The elephants were in my charge. In passing around the outer edge of the ring, we had to pass all the cages containing the lions, tigers, and other wild animals not in the line. Behind the wagons, were the people on the tiers, but the wagons did not obstruct in any way their view of what was going on.

"As we were passing a black leopard's cage, 'The Corsican swerved a little to the left, and stood for about four seconds before that leopard's cage. Be-fore the leopard could be prevented, he shot out one of his muscular paws, and ripped the elephant's ear from root to tip, uutil it hung in ribbons, from which the blood flowed in rivers.



was in 'The Corsican's' eye as he shot it at that leopard. He never groaned or whimpered. He just sent in that one dart of intense hatred, and then resumed his march around the arena.
"Nobody knew of what had happened but myself.

I nursed 'The Corsican's' ear until it had all healed, and after that he seemed to grow as gentle and lovable as a kitten. He never again seemed to give the leopard one single thought.

"Two years passed-mind you, two years-and I had almost forgotten the incident, when one night we were showing in Belgium. We were marching around the outer edge of the ring, as usual, preparatory to the performance, and as we came to the leopard's cage! saw that the big black cat was asleep, his head turned away from the ring, his tail hanging out.

leopard's cage? saw that the big diack cat was assecy, his head turned away from the ring, his tail hanging out.

"Before I had time to think, "The Corsican' extended his trunk, curled it around the root of the leopard's tail and, with one tremendous wrench, had pulled it out by the roots! It seemed as if all hell were let loose in an instant! Such a scream as that leopard let out I have never heard since. And 'The Corsican'? He elevated his trunk, let out blast after blast of triumph, and then flung the horrible bleeding tail far from him. The leopard almost bled to death, but we managed to save his life.

"After that, "The Corsican' grew independent and fractious. He didn't need to be friendly with me any more, as he must have thought the leopard dead. When he saw the leopard after the latter had come out of the hospital, all well, but minns a tail, he was the most astonished looking animal I ever saw. He was going to roar, but thought better of it, and for five years after he was like a lamb.

"For three or four years, I always kept an eye on him, however, as I knew how cunning he was in acting a goody-good part. But as the fourth year passed without any trouble, I became forgetful and off my guard.

"Five years after the leopard lost his tail, and

ing a goody-good part. But as the fourth year passed without any trouble, I became forgetful and off my guard.

"Five years after the leopard lost his tail, and seven years after 'The Corsican' had had his car ripped, we were in Cuba.

"One afternoon we were preparing for the night's entertainment, when a terrific cyclone swept down upon us, tearing the tent from its fastenings and sending it down the blast at the rate of a mile a minute. It seemed, between the roaring of the storm, the screams of the animals, the cries of the people, and the trumpetings of the elephants, as if the end of the world had come. During the thick of it, I missed "The Corsican." Had be gone away to wander in the thick tropical forest, or had he hidden some where in fright, waiting for the storm to pass? Neither. He had broken loose, and invaded the waron circle. He had found the black leopard's cage, shoved it over, broken the bars, dragged the black fellow put, and literally stamped him into the earth! I found him stamping up and down over what was once that leopard, the ends of his tusks covered with blood and black hairs, and sending up peal after peal of rage and revenge and victory over his dead and buried foe.

"After that day, The Corsican became a perfect decrease."

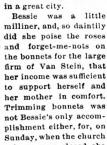
"After that day, 'The Corsican' became a pe demon, and a year later we had to put him to de-and Davis the keeper threw away the end o smoked eigar, and asked for another.

"THE DUMMY."

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT BY MRS. FRANZ MILCRE.

Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.

ESSIE BROWN was not a flirt. She was pretty enough to have been very successful one, but then, she had a wise little mother who loved her pretty daughter too well to leave her in ignor-ance of the many snares which beset young feet in a great city.



bells rang and all the busy shops were closed, she proved herself to be as skilful in preparing dainty puddings as in suiting most fastidious customers. She knew nothing of Greek or astronomy, but her trim little figure, her pleasant toned voice, and genuine smile brought comfort and cheer wherever she went.

One day (that one day comes to most people sooner or later) as she walked along Broadway, the busy thoroughfare was busier than ever, and the great stores were being gorgeously bedecked for the approaching Easter-tide, when she paused a moment to look in at Stewart's window.

Life-size figures were displayed in various attitudes, and about them lay the wares of the shop in well-arranged profusion. On one figure, in particular, Bessie's eyes rested. It was the figure of a man, a trife taller than the rest, with black beard and hair. In his hand he held a large silver tray, laden with ex-

iar. Bessie's eyes rested. It was the figure of a man, a trifle tailer than the rest, with black beard and hair. In his hand he held a large silver tray, laden with exquisite china.

'How well these things are done now-a-days,'' mused Bessie's nerves received a shock, for the dummy. Just then Bessie's nerves received a shock, for the dummy not only blinked his eyes but smiled at her. She turned instantly away, blushing scarlet at her mistake.

All day she feit annoyed, and yet there was something about the man which she could not forget. But Bessie was no flirt, and she made up her mind not to look in the direction of Stewart's at all when she passed that way in the morning.

The next day she started bravely from home, but someway, as she drew near the forbidden window, she began to feel strangely self-conscious. Curiosity also stirred her. It was so hard not to know if he were really looking. But then, of course, he would not be there. He was the window-dresser, no doubt, and had just stood 'a moment to consider. Still the girl found it hard to keep her eyes straight before her. She passed one great window of the establishment, and was almost past the last one, when, someway, her eyes just peeped from out the corner next to the store, and—there he was again. There he was, and this time he smiled at her without doubt. The girl, was completely overcome with shame and embarrassment. All day she was in a state of confusion. She dropped her flowers about and pricked her fingers incessantly. But Bessie Brown was not a flirt, and at night she told her mother all about it.

The wrinkted little woman listened with deep interest. With quick eyes she noted the girl's agitation and changing color. When Bessie had done the mother was silent a moment, then she simply said: "Go down Davis Street."

Bessie knew what she meant. Davis Street was one block west of Stewart's. The back doors of the firm opened into it. There were no show windows and no dummies on Davis Street, only straw packing boxes, and express wagons.

Bessie

cold straw behind Stewart's, where she tried in vain to weave dainty bonnets from the coarse packing stuff.

But the next day she went down Davis Street, and the next, and the next, until a whole year went by.

The girl never forgot the dummy, however, and every morning as she turned into the dingy street her eyes involuntarily sought Stewart's back door, and a sense of loneliness came over her.

Winter came again, snow-flakes filled the air, Bessie hugged her muff and hurried along. Davis Street looked more dismal than ever, but the girl turned resolutely into its windy, whirling depths. The blinding snow buffeted her about, but she struggled on. She was almost at Stewart's door when she suddenly slipped on a bit of ice. With a little cry of pain she fell, not quite to the ground, for a strong hand had caught her. She looked up; there, wrapped in a huge coat, stood the dummy. He seemed in no way surprised or disturbed, but asked with quick concern:

"I am so sorry, did you hurt yourself?"

Besssie was so confused that she stammered out, "No, sir," although she could have cried for pain.

He still held her arm and asked again, "Are you all right?"

"Yes, sir, ever so right," said Bessie, still more confused; but when she tried to put her foot to the ground she found her ankle was hopelessly sprained.

The dummy seemed to know instinctively what to do. He said, "You will have to return home, and by your leave I will assist you."

He was so kind and withal so commanding that Bessie accepted his offer.



If the earth had opened under her feet, Mrs. Brown would not have been more surprised than she was to see Bessie coming limping into the room, leaning on the arm of this broad-shouldered stranger.

"Mother," said Bessie helplessly, "this is the dummy-I mean Mr. Lessing, I went down Davis Street. I fell and he caught me."

Mr. and Mrs. Lessing sat in the train bound for Boston. They had been married two hours. She said to him: "It was just fate that brought us together, wasn't it?"

"No," said he with decision, "fate had nothing what we had not him?"

gether, wasn't it?"
"No," said he with decision, "fate had nothing whatever to do with it. By George, I watched for you as a cat watches for a mouse."
"Now you have caught me I hope I am not to share a similar fate," and Bessie smiled. "But," she con-

tinued, "you say you watched for me; what do you

tinued, "you say you watched for me; what do you mean?"

"Well," he said, "I'll tell you. I was putting the finishing touches on my window when you first appeared. Now, I know a good article when I see it. Thousands of women come to our place every day and my eyes have grown expert. You were exactly the one for me. I knew it the moment you turned away so quickly. I knew it still more when you ventured one sly look the next day, and I knew it most of all when you went down Davis Street every day for a year, and looked so longingly at our door," "I did not look longingly at the door, and how did you know that I went down Davis Street?"

"Yes," said her husband, laughing, "you see I know all about it."

"But how do you know?" she persisted.

"Easy enough. That second day I walked out on to the sidewalk after you had gone by and saw you turn into Van Stein's. I waited long enough for you to have bought a dozen hats, but when you did not reappear I concluded that you worked there."

"You ought to have been a detective."

"He laughed.

"The next day you were missing, but the day following I saw you again go into Van Stein's. You went every morning. I went to the back of our store, and there through the window I saw you trudging down Davis Street, looking like a little martyr."

"I did not look like a martyr." Bessie protested.

trudging down Davis Street, looking like a little martyr."

"I did not look like a martyr," Bessie protested.

"I'm sure you did, and you never failed to look at our back door. I wanted to come right out and hug you, but I hardly knew how to arrange it. Finally, I could not bear to see you suffer any longer."

"You mean thing," she said poutlag.

He threw his head back and laughed heartily, giving her a little unseen pinch.

"Yes," he continued, "I made up my mind that it was time I came to your rescue, and so, when on that snowy morning I saw you struggling along down Davis Street, I came out on purpose to meet you."

"But how did you know I should fall? There now, you see it was fate after all."

"No it wasn't, either, for I knew it was horriby slippery there, for I fell myself on the same spot half an hour before."

Bessie looked at him fondly. "Well," she said, "you certainly did watch me. I wonder if all men are so sly?"

The trail stopped, and as they alighted he said,

The train stopped, and as they alighted he said, "We are not always such dummies as we look."

Will Miss Ellen F. Coppinger who sent to Comport a story entitled "Queen Mab," please send at once her correct address, upon receipt of which she will receive a check for \$25, as the story has been av arded a prize.

PRIZE WINNERS FOR JULY.

Sarah M. Maverick, First Prize. Nemo Burnet, Second i rize, Ernest McCann, Third Prize. Mrs. Franz Milcke, Fourth Prize.

The following conditions will hereafter govern the awarding of eash prizes for Nutshell Stories, and the manuscripts of such writers only as have complied with all these requirements will receive consideration.

All the necessary particulars being here clearly set forth, it will be useless for any one to seek further information or personal favors by addressing the editor, as such letters cannot be answered.

1. Only persons who are regular yearly subscribers to "Comfort" and who send with every manuscript at least two new yearly subscribers (together with 25 cents for each subscriber so sent) may compete for the prizes.

2. All contributions must have the number of words they contain plainly noted thereon in addition to the veriter's full name and address with nom de plume if desired; must be written on one side of the paper only, addressed to Editor Nutshell. Story Club care of Comport, Augusta, Maine.

3. All stories must be strictly original with the contributors who may rrite upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace; of city or country life, or of experiences on land or sea—but no story must contain more than 1,500 or less than 1,000 words.

4. No Manuscript will be returned under any

tworlds.

4. NO MANUSCRIPT WILL BE RETURNED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES AND COMPETITORS SHOULD THEREFORE RETAIN A COPY OF WHAT THEY SEND.

5. The writer of the best original story will receive \$30 cash; of the second best, \$25 cash; of the third best, \$20 cash and of the fourth best, \$15 cash. Remillances will be sent by check as soon as awards have been made.

German Syrup"

N. C., was taken with Pneumonia. His brother had just died from it. When he found his doctor could not rally him he took one bottle of German Syrup and came out sound and well. Mr. S. B. Gardiner, Clerk with Druggist J. E. Barr, Aurora, Texas, prevented a bad attack of pneumonia by taking German Syrup in time. He was in the business and knew the danger. He used the great remedy-Boschee's German Syrup—for lung diseases.

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\$100.00 IN CASH PRIZES \$100.00

The publishers take pleasure in announcing that in order to increase the common interest in this department, and to develop the inventive power and originality of Comport readers, they offer the following Cash prizes:

1st. A Cash prize of TWENTY DOLLARS (\$20) will be given for the best original and practical suggestion for use in this department.

2nd, A Cash prize of FIFTEEN DOLLARS (\$15) will be given for the Second best suggestion in the same line.

3rd. A Cash prize of ten dollars (\$10) for the next best.

best.

4th. A Cash prize of seven dollars and fifty cents (\$7.50) for the next.

5th. A Cash prize of five dollars (\$5) for the next.

6th. A Cash prize of three dollars (\$3) for the next.

7th. Ten Cash prizes of two dollars (\$2) each for the next ten and

8th. Twenty Cash prizes of one dollar (\$1) each for the next twenty, making 36 prizes in all to be given for such suggestion as rank in the above order of merit.

CONDITIONS.

CONDITIONS.

Competitors must be yearly paid-up subscribers to Comport; and in addition must send at least one new yearly subscriber, with twenty-five cents, the price of one year's subscription to Comport for each new subscriber so sent.

Letters must be received before September first; and awards will be published in the October issue.

Letters must be written plainly on one side of the paper only

Letters must be short, plain, explicit and contain no superfluous words.

Letters must be short, plain, explicit and contain no superfluous words.

No manuscript will be returned.
Descriptions may cover fancy articles, gifts for old and young, designs in drawn-work, embroidery, etc. Only such patterns of knitting and crocheting will be considered as are of exceptional merit and originality. Designs for internal and external decorations of the house may be entered in the contest, or suggestions on any topic contributing to home comfort or individual happiness. Illustrations of articles suggested, when possible, will add to the value of letters. Designs or suggestions must be absolutely original with the writer, never having appeared in print before, and not copied from books or other sources.

print before, and not copied from books or owner sources.

No communication will be considered that is not sufficiently stamped, and accompanied by the writer's full name and address.

The conditions are fully given here and consequently no letters of inquiry or of a personal nature will be answered.

Articles will be judged on merit alone.

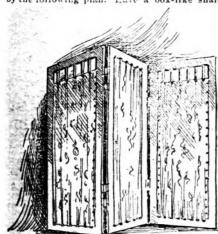
Competition positively closes September first.

The publishers reserve the right to use any suggestions submitted which may not be awarded a prize.

All communications must be fully prepaid and addressed to Busy Bee, Care of Comport, Augusta, Maia:



A window which looks out against a bare wall may be transformed into a thing of beauty by the following plan. Have a box-like shal-



HOME-MADE SCREENS

low wooden frame, which fits, perfectly, the lower sash. It must be fitted on the outside, so that the sash may be raised or lowered. Have a piece of canvas stretched to the flat box, coming close to the edge all round. Have a piece of canvas stretched to the flat box, coming close to the edge all round. Have a ventilator put in the upper sash. If you are a skilled artist you can easily complete the work. Otherwise, get a competent person to paint, in oils, a view of summer skies, with a garden in the middle distance, or a broad sweep of felds. It will brighten up the window, and make it seem as if the room opened into the scene.

The average housekeeper does not half appreciate the value of screens. They can be used to keep off a draft, to shut off the fierce blaze of an open wood fire, to hide unsightly corners, to shield a "cozy corner," and for a drawt the headthrough, then wrap the thread around this loop. Put the needle through the

dozen other things beside. They need not be expensive, and may be made at home. Any carpenter can make and stain a cheap plain frame, of three or four leaves, joined by hinges, which you can afterwards ebonize or enamel to suit your taste and the material covering it. Art-silks gathered on and tacked across the top and bottom with brass-headed nails, or if silk is too expensive, the cotton printed substitutes, make beautiful screens. One of the prettiest I ever saw was made by an artist. She tacked canvas to the screen frame, which was ebonized. Each leaf was painted differently. One had a stalk of Indian corn with ripe ears glistening among the half-dry leaves. Another had a field of great poppies bending in the wind; the third and prettiest, had simply a tall mullein-stalk in bloom growing out from a pile of stones and bending against a background of blue sky with hazy mountains in the distance. The whole was beautiful; but if any Busy Bee cannot paint, she need not be discouraged. She can exercise her ingenuity in getting up something else that will be unique and original enough to submit for a Comfort prize.



HANDKERCHIEF CAP.

Many of you have seen the pretty handkerchief caps to be worn about the house while cooking, dusting or doing other light work, such as are given in the cut. I found out the other day how to make them. Take an ordinary embroidered cambric handkerchief. Have it ironed out smooth. Then pinch up the centre into crumpled folds, and fit it to the head. Fasten the folds tightly with needle and thread, and lo! the cap is done When it is soiled, rip out the stitches, launder, and make it up again as before.

Miss Elizabeth Varian, 23 Evans St. Mt. Auburn, Cincinnati, Ohio, offers a very practical suggestion.

"As photograph albums appear to have passed beyond the pale of artistic merit, something must be found to supply the deficiency. This has been supplied in my own case by a box which is both ornamental as well as useful. The material may be purchased at any place where tissue paper outfits are sold, and will cost about fifty cents. The box itself would easily sell for two dollars. You will need one strong, perfect, pasteboard box 101-2 inches in length, 4 inches in height, 7 inches in width, one sheet cotton batting, one yard of French crepe paper, Nile green, and one yard of the same, pink, one yard of rubber stemming, one sheet of plain tissue paper, pink, to be used in making roses for the ornamentation of the box. Secure a lid to the box at one side hinged by a strip of muslin. Cover the box both inside and out with one layer of cotton batting, secured by paste at the corners; cover the outside of the box with the green runs up and down. The pink paper is used as a lining and contrasts beautifully with the green. Although the selection of these colors is not arbitrary, care should be taken to make them harmonious.

Leave the lining standing an inch above the edge of the box; this may be turned down and pulled out to form a ruffle about the three sides of the box. A cord formed of narrow strips of the two colors twisted together forms a pretty finish for the edge of the lid around the four arready for the orname

I am sure the pictured faces of your friends ought to be more pleasing than ever, looking out from such a box.

Sadie Hall Peck, of Guilford, Conn, sends directions for

square desired



of center piece. For drawn-work handkerchief. border, crochet 3 slip stitches, 3 sc, turn, 1 ss, knot in knot, 2 ss, kin k, turn and continue until you come to corner, laying lace around handkerchief; fill in to fit nicely, and repeat at all corners. Sew the outside piece, doubled, overand-over to the insertion, which should also be over-handed to the center. Number 50 cotton is good for a medium quality and 100 for very fine work. These are beautiful made in white, or dainty colored silk.

Isadora Clark, Box 78, Elliott, Iowa, wants to

ring again, and so on until the ring is covered. Cut off the thread, leaving an end four or five inches long. Any color can be used. A pretty combination would be to cover the rings in black, and after they are all covered, join one to the other with the short thread that was left on each, using a common needle to sew them together. After they are all joined, find how large the elastic should be and take the necessary amount of black rubber elastic and buttonhole-stitch the ends to each end of the rings. Take a half yard of number 3 yellow ribbon for each elastic, fasten at each end, to the outside rings, cut in two in the middle and weave in and out through the rings till the centre is reached. Then tie a double bow-knot. The rings are the front part of the elastic and the rubber passes behind. They will be found both pretty and cool."

Did you ever hear that yellow garters bring luck, or that, if put on Easter morning and worn throughout the year—no matter how shabby they get!—the wearer, if she be an unmarried woman, will certainly become engaged before another Easter rolls around? Some women wear one black and one yellow garter, on account of another old tradition, which says that your garters mustr't be mates if you want good luck.

The same Busy Bee sends us, also, a very practical design of a homemade bookcase, which is so simple and easy of construction that almostany one can make it.

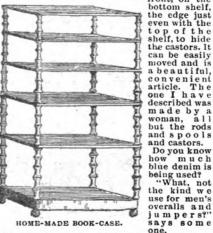
"Get the blacksmith to weld a burr on to one end of four quarter-inch rods, 60 inches long. Have a thread cut on the other end about two inches, with nuts to fit, so that you can tighten them up as much as you like. Take six one-half inch boards 24 inches long and 8 inches wide lay them one on top of the other; even, and bore a hole through each corner I 1-4 inches from the side and the same distance from the end On the bottom board, fasten an inch cleat across each end, and to these cleats secure four table castors. Now put the rods through the four holes with the welded end under, by the castors. On these rods slip spoo

the castors. It

the castors. It can be easily moved and is a beautiful, convenient article. The one I have described was made by a

made by a woman, all woman, all but the rods and spools and castors.
Do you know

how much blue denim is



HOME-MADE BOOK-CASE.

Home-made book-case. Says some one.

Yes, that very kind. You can buy it at fancy goods stores and furnishing houses, at 30 cents a yard, or at dry-goods houses for 14. There is a finer variety, too. that is extremely beautiful. Mrs. Candace Wheeler of New York, the most noted woman designer in this country, first discovered its artistic capabilities, and now it is used for covering furniture, for table spreads, sofa pillows, portieres, sofa cushions, etc. The ordinary quality should be washed and boiled before using, to make it soft and pliable, and the finer ones, even, are improved by the same process. Embroider with white linen arthread in Kensington stitch any design you like. Use the wrong side of the goods for the right, turning up the darker, in a hem on the edge, for a finish. Portieres are trimmed on the lighter side with bands of the darker and finished with etched embroidery. There is really no end to the possibilities of blue denim, and it has the advantage of being both artistic and serviceable.

Next month I shall tell you about some of the wonderful things I saw at the World's Fair.

Busy Bee.

BUSY BEE.

GOOD ADVICE.

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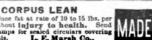
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TWO FOURTHS-ONE HALF.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY WM. G. PATTEN.

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OORAY!" yelled little Jim, bursting into the kitchen like a young "To-morrow's cyclone. the Forth of July!"

Aunt Nancy dropped her best blue-edged pieplate and broke it in three pieces. Then she suddenly sank into a chair, threw her apron over her head and burst into tears.

"Oh, Aunty Nan!" cried the curly-headed boy, in dismay. "I never meaned to do it!"

Then he came close and tried to put his little arms about her, while he added: "I'm awfully, awfully

To his surprise, she caught him up in her arms, having dropped her apron, and held him in a close embrace, while she nearly smothered himwith kisses, murmuring all the while:

"Oh, Jimmy, Jimmy! the years have been so long

since you marched away from me forever! But you looked so brave, so manly, so noble! And to think you went 'way down there in the South to die!"
""Why, aunty!" said the puzzled and wondering

aking between her kisses; "I isn't dead!" She held him from her and looked into his rosy

face.
"What have I been saying?" she asked, as if dazed. "Don't mind me, Jimmy boy-don't mind your old

"But you isn't old," declared Jim. "You hasn't got any white in your hair, and you're just the hand-

somest and bestest aunty that never was."

Then she strained him to her heart once more.

"God bless you, little Jimmy!" she whispered.
"They named you for my dear soldier boy. I trust there'll never be another war, so you will have to march away to death."

"Did you ever have a boy? and was he a soldier?" eagerly questioned the little lad. "You never told me anything 'bout him. Is that what alwus makes you so sad and cryin' when the Forfh of July comes?"

The woman did not immediately reply, but she turned her face toward the far-away blue hills that lay piled up against the southern sky, and there was an infinite longing and sadness in her brown eyes. That she had been handsome in her younger days was plainly evident, for the gentle beauty of middle age was still hers.

"Yes," she sighed, at length, "I had a boy once."

"And did he love you, Aunty Nan?"
"With all his heart."

"And he wented off to be a soldier?"

"And never comed back?"

Aunt Nan's chin quivered; tears once more filled her eyes.

"No," she slowly replied, "he never came back, for "No," she slowly replied, "he never came back, for he was killed by the enemy. He died on the fourth day of July, and that is why I am always sad that day."

"I'm so sorry!" said little Jim, getting his arms about her neck and putting his plump cheek to hers.
"How old was he when he went away?"

"Just twenty-one."

"And how old was you, aunty?"
"Eighteen, darling."

The boy started back and stared at her wonderingly.

The boy started back and started at her wonderingly.

"I don't just fink I understand that," came slowly from his lips. "How could you have a boy that was older then you was, Aunt Nan? And you wasn't ever married either, was you?"

"No, dear; but I would have been had my boy returned."

Limply sat silent and solve thinking it all

turned."
Jimmy sat silent and sober, thinking it all over.
At length, he said:
"Oh, I guess I knows how it was now! That's
what made you never marry. The' isn't any fun for
you in the Forth of July. I never knowed before
what made you cry then. Now, I'll tell Bessie, and
we won't have no Forth at this place this year,
aunty."

aunty."
"God bless you!" she cried, once more. "You are
the dearest child! But you mustn't spoil your tun
for your old aunt. Don't mind me if I do cry, Jimmy
dear."

The Fourth of July came. It was a bright day, but all about the farm was quiet as Sunday.

A man came slowly down the dusty road. He was dressed in a faded suit of blue, and an empty sleeve hung at his side. He looked around with wonder in his eyes.

"This is the place," he muttered. "Things look natural. How many years of my life have I wasted—how many years has It been since I forgot my own name and where I was born? It all came back to me at last, and I have returned. Of course she married Dave. I wonder if she is living?"

He paused to look at two children who were sitting in the shadow of some lilac bushes. Back in a little nook amid shrubs and flowers stood a modest cottage. Beside the children were a tiny cannon, two small flags and two large tin trumpets, but the little boy and girl were sitting there quietly, making no noise and looking very sober.

"Hello, trots," said the man with the empty sleeve. "What are you doing?"
The little boy stood up and removed his soldier cap. "Please, sir, we is celebrating the Forfh of July," he replied.

"Well, I must say you are celebrating in a quiet fashion."

must say you are celebrating in a quiet

"Yes, sir. We don't want to make no noise to 'sturb Aunt Nan." The man started a bit. Then he came and sat down on a stone beneath the lilacs, taking the rosy-cheeked boy on his knee.

boy on his knee.
"Is your aunt sick?" he asked.
"No, sir; she's just cryin'. She cries every year on
the Forth of July."
"That is strange. What is your name, my little

"That is strange. What is your name, my little man?"
"James Torrey Davis, sir."
Again the man started, and his bearded lips trembled when he put another question:
"What makes your aunt cry on the Fourth of July?"
"Cause she losted her boy then."
"How large was her boy?"
"He was a man, and aunty says he was brave and noble. He wented into the army and was killed; and now aunty cries every Forth of July. Don't she Bessie?"
The little girl nodded, permitting her brother to do.

now aunty cries every form of July. Don't sne Bessie?"

The little girl nodded, permitting her brother to do the talking. Neither of them noticed the strange look in the face of the one-armed man.

"Last year, when papa was alive," the little fellow went on. "he wented down to the village and buyed us flags and horns and fire-crackers and candy and lots of fings, and we made the awfulest noise all day long. But now papa is dead and we live with aunty, we don't make any noise, 'cause it makes her think of guns and soldiers, and she cries dreadful."

It was some seconds before the stranger trusted himself to speak, and then it was to ask still another question:

"Was your father's name Abner Davis?"

"Is your aunt married?" He waited breathlessly

"Is your aunt married?" He waited breathlessly for the answer.
"No, sir; she never got married, though she said she would had her boy ever comed back."
The man lifted his one hand and put it over his eyes. Something seemed choking him. A great sob broke from his heaving breast.
"Is you sick?" cried the little lad, in alarm.
But when the man lowered his hand, they saw his face was beaming with joy, even though his eyes were full of tears.
"Where can I find your aunt?" he asked.
"Up at the house."
He arose, lifting the little girl to his shoulder, and saying to the boy:
"Come, Jimmy. I would give you my other hand, if I had one."
"Did you lost it in the war?" asked the little lad.

This is the wonderful tale the stranger told Aunt

"Did you lost it in the war?" asked the little lad.

This is the wonderful tale the stranger told Aunt Nan:

The morning of July 4th, 1863, dawned dismal and drear at Gettysburgh. Murkish clouds hung low over Roundtop Mountain and the shadows were dense in the woods which crowned Seminary Hill. The rattle of musketry was no longer heard, the thundering cannons were silent. Two great armies lay watching each other like hawks, yet neither made a move.

The previous day had witnessed Lee's last desperate blow in the offensive. All the morning was spent in preparation, and at noon one hundred and twenty guns began to roar from the crest of Seminary Ridge. At times the ground reeled beneath the terrible shocks. The Union artillery promptly replied, and since the beginning of the world no such bombardment had been witnessed on any battlefield. At three o'clock the Confederates emerged from the woods on Seminary hill and advanced down its slope, heading straight toward the Union center. In all, 18,000 men charged upon the Northern forces, and they were the very flower of the Southern army. Down the slope and across the plain they swiftly marched in compact order, the determination of death being in their unwavering advance.

From Roundtop to Cemetery Hill the Federal batteries opened on the enemy, but the great gaps plowed in their lines closed up promptly, and still they came on. Doubleday met them so warmly they turned to the left and rushed at Hancock. Stannard's Vermonters poured such a terrible fire into Pickett's veteran Virginians that great confusion was caused, and from that moment to the close of the battle disaster after disaster piled upon the Confusion was caused, and from that moment to the close of the battle disaster after disaster piled upon the Confusion was caused, and from that moment to the close of the battle disaster after disaster piled upon the Confusion was caused, and from that moment to the close of the battle disaster after disaster piled upon the Confusion was caused, and from the two pil



They minded not the wretched weather; they heeded not the heavy rain that began to fall during the day. One was twisting and groaning in agony, while the other seemed to watch him, with a look of evil satisfaction on his face. At length, the latter spoke:
"Jim," he called, "the surgeon says you'll have to lose your right arm."

The other ground his strong teeth.
"And you will go back to her a whole man!"
"Is that what you are thinking of? Yes, the bullet went clean through, and they say I am not hard hit at all."

"It will not be difficult for her to choose between a man with two good hands and a poor wretch with only one—and that one the left."
"Oh, as for that, she has made her choice already."
"Oh as for that, she has made her choice already."
"What do you mean?" He lifted himself and glared across at the other.
"Just what I say, Jim. You never had any chance with her."
"She has promised to become my wife as soon as I return."
"You lie!"
"You lie!"
"You lie!"
A paper was passed across, and with the shaking fingers of his left hand, the speaker fumbled in his pocket. "Just read this letter."
A paper was passed across, and with the shaking fingers of his left hand, the sorely wounded soldier opened it. What he read caused him to sink back with a bitter groan and lie there motionless.

The other looked down at the bloodless face and

The surgeons came along with the surgeons came as, "We'll have to take off this man's arm," said one. The other looked down at the bloodless face and shock his head, observing:
"No job here; he's dead,"
They passed on to the next.
But they were mistaken, for the soldier was in a swoon, and, an hour later, he revived to find his rival gone. His arm was amputated successfully, but fever seized upon him, and he was left with the rest of the wounded when Meade pursued Lee's retreating army.

of the wounded when are are pursued lice's letter ing army.

It was though he had forgotten his own name and all the particulars of his past life. In the official report, his name was placed on the list of those killed. After the war, he lived in the West until, all of a sudden, memory returned to him, and he came back to his Vermont home and the one he loved.

And so the one-armed soldier proved to be Aunt Nan's "boy" whom she supposed dead. From her lips, he learned the letter Dave Baxter had shown him was a rank forgery.

Great was the rejoicing in that little Vermont home that glad Fourth of July. James Torrey could not wait longer; he said he had waited long enough. A minister was summoned and a ceremony that bound together two loving hearts long parted was performed. Neighbors were there, and there was a feast and much rejoicing.

In the evening, the fireworks spluttered and the fire-crackers popped and little Jim yelled himself thoarse. The old soldier with the empty sleeve stood with his spare arm about Aunt Nan's waist. "What a glorious day it is!" he softly said. "This will always be a day of celebration for us." "It is not much like this day of the month twenty-six years ago," she replied, snuggling close to him. "Two fourths make a half, you know," was his laughing retort. "And you are the half—my better half." "Hooray!" yelled little Jim, as a neighbor touched off a rocket, which went sizzing up into the sky where

half."
"Hooray!" yelled little Jim, as a neighbor touched
off a rocket, which went sizzing up into the sky where
the stars were twinkling. "Hooray for the Forth of
July! Hooray for Aunt Nan and Uncle Jim!"

IT GAVE THEM NEW LIFE! THEY ARE STRONG AND HAPPY NOW!

HERE IS WHAT THEY SAY:

New York, Schenectady.—The well-known policeman, Geo. P. Turnbull, says he was afflicted with stomach trouble for five years. He received no benefit from all the remedies he tried, but now feels better than he has for many years, and recommends it to all as an excellent remedy.

New York, Waterport.—Oxien cured my son of fits. It acts like a miracle. MRS. J. BATES.

Idaho, Mason.—I took the scarlet fever last win-ter, and, although I am 67 years old, Oxien saved my life. I took nothing else. I owe my life to this wonder-ful food. I can't do without it, and have sold lots of it right here at home.

Canada, Deep Brook, N. S. - Oxien has done wonders for me and my little baby, who was covered from head to foot with red blotches. He also had them on his tongue. He was cured with one tablet. I enclose \$1.00 for another box. I would not be without it for the world.

MRS. OLIVE WHITNEY.

Illinois, Pennington Point.—People who saw me one year ago, confined to my bed for months and given up by doctors, say they can scarcely believe their eyes, but they cannot help seeing what a wonderful medicine Oxien is. I will gladly accept an agency, and I herewith send \$10.00 for a supply.

INEZ HARLAN.

Kentucky, Paintsville. — After being treated by a dozen of the most eminent doctors for what they called catarrh of the lungs, liver, and kidneys, inflammatory rheumatism and nervous debility, without benefit, I tried Oxien. From the first day of its use I improved and have not been confined to my bed since; while before I was sick abed more than half the time. You may publish this testimony. JOHN R. AKERS.

Georgia, Atlanta. — MRS. MARGARET CHAND. LER writes that she has received great benefit from using Oxien. She was run down from overwork, and it has given her new vigor. She recommends all to try it.



Utah. Descret. — Last spring I was attacked by hemorrhage of the lungs, and on the fourth morning I was given up to die. The doctor told me no medicine could save me. I concluded to try Oxien, but after taking but two tablets my trouble stopped and has not returned since. I think it the most powerful remedy for the different diseases I ever knew. It will break up and cure any of the diseases I have ever tried it for. E. D. GIBBS.

E. D. GIBBS.

Louisiana, Farmersville.—I was greatly afflicted
with heart trouble and could find no relief. I had two
or three sinking spells which left me very weak, but
after trying your wonderful Food for the Nerces, have
not been troubled at all. MRS. A. E. COVINGTON.

Virginia D.

NRS. A. E. COVINGION.
Virginia, Pocahontas.—I lost the use of my right arm from the effects of rheumatism, but your wonderful Food for the Nerres has worked like magic in restoring it to use. I am now as well as I have ever been.

HETTIE HUGHES.

New York, Diana Station.—My daughter was slek for one year and a half, and three of our most skilful doctors did not do so much good as one box of Oxien. I can tell of other wonderful cures here, one man had an abscess on his face which the doctor said would terminate in a cancer. One box of Oxien cured him. The callous on his face has entirely disappeared, and he is again able to work and sleep well.

A. M. SAMSON.

Iowa, Eldon.—Two boxes of Oxien cured me of chronic rheumatism. I also know of other cures.

J. E. HOUGHLAND, Pension Claim Atty.

J. E. HOUGHLAND, Pension Glaim Atty.

Indian Territory, Cornish Picking Co.—1
have suffered for years with spinal affliction and nervolume prostration. Oxien has completely cured me.
Mis. ANNIE REED. T. I. REED also says that after
suffering for six months from the effects of la grippe,
Oxien gave him strength, and he is now well and happy,
the doctors failing to relieve him at all.

I Stanley I Hawkins of augusta hams firriby certify that I am in the employ of the Grant One to of Said city, and that the letters testimonials, and indorsements regarding Prices published in this paper, are grunder and that they are true copies of the originals received by the said company, and I certify further that thousands of similar voluntary indorsements are bring received by said heart Over less from all parts of the United States. Stanley I Hawkins,



State of Maine, Kennebec ss.

Personally appeared the aforesaid Stanley K. Hawkins and made oath that the above statement by him signed is true.

Before me aly andrews.

Judge of the Municipal Court, Augusta, Maine

Indian Territory, Cornish.—I have been an invalid for the past ten years, having suffered untold agony with dyspepsia, catarrh, and Leart trouble. For about a year I could not lay on my left side, and the doctors and different kinds of medicines gave me no relief. After taking Oxien I immediately felt much better. I can now sleep, and am gaining strength every day.

Wisconsin. New Richmond.—My son, who was

Wisconsin, New Richmond.—My son, who was insane for over two years, is entirely cured. He has taken two boxes of Oxien and Is now considered cured by the superintendent of the Insane Asylum. He has been at home for some time now, and is well and happy.

CHAS. CLARK.

happy.

III., Clay City, Clay Co.— For two years I was not able to do any work whatever. Thanks be to Oxien, I can now do all my own work. The doctors gave me no relief from my stomach trouble and chills, but your wonderful Food for the Neres has completely citred me.

CAROLINE HESILTON.

Pennsylvania, Tryonville.— I suffered for eight years with what doctors called chronic inflammation of the stomach. I could not eat meat of any kind, could not sleep an hour for months until I tried Oxien. I can now eat what I please, sleep with so much comfort that I feel it my duty to make my grateful acknowledgment to this Wonderful Food for the Nerves.

MRS, DAVID TIUS.

Nebraska, Wilber, Saline Co.—MRS. EMMA WICKHAM says that she has received great benefit from Oxien. It has also cured her boy from the tobacco habit, and given her father strength.

New York, Schenectady.—I have been troubled with neuralga of the heart and throat trouble for years past. Oxien has completely cured me and I feel like a new man. All my friends are surprised at my recovery. I know that Oxien is a God-send to the sick and suffering, and am anxious to have everyone know of its wonderful cures.

S. G. FORD,
Auctioneer, Ellis House.

Every box of Oxien is sold under the certificate of the late City Physician of Augusta, Maine; and the proprietors have the Official Endorsement of the Mayor, Postmaster, City Solicitor, Presidents of the Common Council, and Aldermen, etc., etc. The genuine Food for the Nerves, Oxien, is sold only in boxes costing thirty-five cents each, and in Giant Boxes (more than three times as large), costing one dollar each, and every tablet has the word "Oxien" (our lawful trade-mark) stamped upon it.

Kansas, Axtell.—I feel like shouting praises for Oxien. I had a severe pain in my head which made me feel sick all over. I was nearly crazed all the time. Is tried everything, but could not obtain relief until Oxien was offered me by your agent here. I now feel like a new person. It certainly does more than you claim for it.

MRS. MARY A. HEIGHT.

MRS. MARY A. HEIGHT.

Michigan, Burnip's Corners. — My mother was in so critical a condition from lung trouble that she seemed paralyzed. She doctored with eleven physicians from New York and this state, and spent a good many hundred dollars for medicine without permanent relief. She then tried Oxien and improved from the very first dose. Her 'rouble is gone, her appetite good, she is gaining strength daily, and what more could I ask for 35 cents?

J. W. MORRISON.

Massachusetts, Athol.—I have used Oxien for sick headache and found it a excellent remedy. En-closed find 35 cents, for which send another box by return mail.

South Dakota, Rapid City.—My wife and I had la grippe last winter which left us without strength, and with weak nerves. We used one Giant box of Oxien and are satisfied that all has not been told of the good it will do in nervous prostration. May its healing powers travel all over the globe. I enclose \$1.00 for another box.

Maine. Rockland. — My daughter has been under four different doctors' treatment for the past four years. She was unable to find relief. Her medicine giving out one day, she tried Oxien tablets, and with such good results that she thinks it the most wonderful Food for the Nerves. It has cured my kidney and bladder trouble which I have been subject to from childhood. I have sold Oxien to the people here, and good results have been obtained from its use. We certainly would not be without it. My daughter would lose the use of her arms while trying to wash dishes. She can now work and walk miles.

MRS. LIZZIE E. SMITH.

Write us at once for facts about the Wonderful Food for the Nerves, Oxien. It is not a stimulant; not a medicine; not a dangerous drug, but the only genuine Food for the Nerves, Blood, and Brain ever discovered. It gives new vigor; new strength; new life to the weak, weary, and debilitated.

Agents are making fortunes at home selling this wonderful discovery. promptly or telegraph and secure your territory before some one gets ahead of you

> THE CIANT OXIE COMPANY, BOX 126, AUGUSTA. MAINE.

Fair Notes by One of the Fair Sex.

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AVING been asked by Comfort to at-tend the World's Fair, and give the twelve hundred and twent ty thousand families to which it is a regular visitor a full and fair account

staregular visitor a full and fair account of its wonders and beauties. I found myseif early on the grounds at Chicago—too early, in fact; for, although it was the last week in May, the exhibition was by no means complete. It seems strange, does it not, that in spite of the undeniable fact that we are the greatest and the most active peogreatest and the most active peo-ple on earth, the United States is

Chicago itself, was not ready for the World's Fair.

The natives of other countries on the Midway Plaisance were excusable if their wares were not on full exhibition; but what excuse is there for great firms like Tiffany's of New York, of whose magnificent display so much had been written, but who actually had not even unpacked a single case the last of May, and whose stand was not even ready? Such great concerns as that should be held just as strictly responsible as the peanut-vender or the bluespectacle-seller down by the gates.

In spite of the fact that there was hardly a completed building on the Fair ground the 25th of May, there were still many, many beautiful and wonderful things to see—more than could be thoroughly enjoyed in a month; and the fact was established that the Columbian Exposition is beyond doubt the "greatest show on earth"—the most wonderful thing of the kind the world has ever seen. It is a place that not idle sight-seers alone should visit. It is a place for mothers of children; for teachers upon whom we rely to instruct and inform our children; for clerks, mechanics, shop-girls, artists, travellers; in fact, for everybody. And those who have put off their going until now are fortunate; as the Fair is only just completed.

Now, what can be seen there? Better ask,

are fortunate; as the Fair is only just completed.

Now, what can be seen there? Better ask, what cannot?

Every nation under the sun, every remote corner of the earth, has contributed something to the interesting collection. Of course the great building of the Manufacturers and Liberal Arts with its forty-four acres of floor space is the first to be visited by the ordinary visitor. Here are exhibits from every part of the world. The most exquisite Sevres china from France; the marvelous productions of tapestry workers in Belgium; the Royal Worcester and Wedgwood wares from England; most elaborately set and exquisitely cut jewels from Austria; egg-shell glass-ware from Venice; costly laces from Germany; beautiful fabrics from Australia; hammered brass from India; wonderful metal-work from East Africa; cut-glass, crockery, and, in short, every conceivable sort of manufactured article from America, are here displayed in great cases and plainly labeled, so that it is not necessary to buy a catalogue in order to know what you are looking at.

In one of the fur exhibits there is a long.

plainly labeled, so that it is not a plainly labeled, so that it is not a catalogue in order to know what you are looking at.

In one of the fur exhibits there is a long, heavy, gray satin robe, or carriage wrap, edged all around with a fine bluish-gray fur. It has taken ten years to make the trimming for this garment, which is composed of the tails of the Russian sable—a small animal that is very scarce. The robe is valued at \$5,000. I hope none of the Comport readers will expect to bring it home with them.

This is but one of the many rare and beautiful objects in this building.

The Mining Building is a place of great interstones, stones, stones, and seems to be supported to be a seem of the comported to the seems of the composition of the composition stones, stones, stones, and seems of the composition of the compo

ful objects in this building.

The Mining Building is a place of great interest to lovers of minerals and precious stones. Here are specimens from everywhere. Cairngorms and amethysts, an inch in diameter, come from New South Wales; copper from Lake Michigan; gold from California; diamonds from Brazil; moonstones from India: opals from Calcutta, Hungary and Mexico; and every gem that can be mentioned all plainly labeled and placed where every visitor to the building can see them.

thing to the World's Fair was Canada, which has many exhibits scattered through the grounds, among the rest being a cheese in the Agricultural Building, weighing eleven tons. They have also a beautiful building on the lake front. Ceylon has the best exhibit, in proportion to its size, of any country in the world. Their beautiful building also faces on the lake front.

front. Ceylon has the best exhibit, in proportion to its size, of any country in the world. Their beautiful building also faces on the lake front.

Brazil spent \$50,000 on their official building, and \$600,000 on their exhibit. In their courtyard is a pyramid made of gold ore extracted from Brazilian mines between 1720 and 1820, amounting to forty-one tons. The French Government Building is very beautiful. It stands on a three-cornered plot of ground on the lake front, and is a one story building, with a broad colonnade and fine court-yard. It has many fine paintings illustrating the landscape gardens of France.

The German Building is very imposing. Over five thousand exhibits are from that country, ranging from the Krupp gun, which occupies one large building by itself, down to the smallest specimens of hosiery and gloves.

Victoria House, the headquarters of Great Britain: Hayti's little pavilion; Guatemala's attractive building with its Roman garden; Colombia's pavilion modelled after the one at Bogota; the Japanese Hooden palace, costing \$100,000; Sweden's turreted building; Spain's Moorish headquarters; the Turkish building; Austria's sixty-five feet high pavilion, surmounted by double eagles; and the imposing establishment of New South Wales are all worthy of extended notice. Many other countries are represented on the Midway Plaisance, and in the department buildings. Italy, for instance, has sent over some of the choicest treasures of the Vatican, and this is the first time she has ever contributed to any exposition. The crown laces are shown in the Italian pavillon, with a guard over them constantly.

Among the State Buildings it is hard to say which is the finest. Illinois covers the most territory, but California follows closely. Texas, Montana, Maryland, Tennessee, Colorado, Idaho and the Dakotas are among the largest. The Iowa Building is the most talked about, this being the wonderful "corn-palace." One end of the building is an exact reproduction of George Washington's home at Mt. Vernon, and in

Manitoba has a large special building, and among the other special ones are the Children's Building, Music Hall, the Sunday-school Building, the Indian School, where exercises are daily going on, the accident and emergency hospitals.

A large collection of wind-mills of every kind and size ever invented are not far from the cliff-dweller's strange house, and lend a foreign element to the scene.

On the lake front, too, is the convent La Rabida, an exact reproduction of the one famous in history. It is a low plastered building and represents the Spanish monastery where Columbus formulated and matured his plans for the discovery of America. It is related that early in 1492. Columbus, with his little son, sought shelter there and got the Franciscan fathers to obtain an audience for him with Queen Isabella. In this modern La Rabida are gathered many authentic relies. Here are portraits of Columbus at various ages, a pinch of dust taken from his coffin in 1877, two canes made from the wood of his house, a piece of the first gold ever discovered in America, a facsimile of Columbus's coffin, and a real letter from his own hand.

But after all, there is no part of the great caravansary more interesting than the Midway Plaisance, which some of the officials claim is not a real part of the great exposition itself.

Here are natives of every country in the world. On one side of the street a turbaned Ottoman mounts the Turkish Mosque at sunset and, turning his face to the setting sun, chants a prayer, keeping a weather'eye out for business, however, and stopping in his devotions long enough to sell at ticket forthe Turkish theatre hard by, if a passerby can be caught long enough. Across from him is the German village where quaint old houses are flanked by a beer-garden with a genuine band from the fader-land playing German airs. A street in Cairo is just below, where orientals in queer costume run in and out of the Egyptian temple covered with hieroglyphics and having two imposing obelisks in front. You may buy fanny drink



past. Or you may visit the wonderful world-famous exhibition of trained animals which will be fully described in the children's circle next month.

If these attractions fail to satisfy you, there is yet the Dutch settlement, Solomon's Temple, Buffalo Bill's show, and the glass-works; and even then there are a few more things to see, so that you will have to come hack next day after. that you will have to come back next day, after

Buffalo Bill's show, and the glass-works; and even then there are a few more things to see, so that you will have to come back next day, after all.

If you are fond of adventure you must not miss the Ferris wheel. This is a tremendous double wheel, built of wooden timbers and iron girders, It is two hundred and sixty-four feet in diameter, On each periphery is a huge iron rim from which a series of cars, the size of ordinary horse-cars, is suspended by each end. The axle alone cost \$35.000, and the entire cost of the wheel was \$400,000. You are supposed to take your place in one of the nicely upholstered cars, and it is set revolving. The cars preserve their equilibrium while making the entire revolution. From the top of the wheel the best view of the Fair grounds is obtained; but there are a good many people who are quite satisfied to look at the wheel and then pass on.

To sum up, I can only say as at the beginning, this is the greatest and grandest exposition the world has ever seen. It is stupendous. No one who can possibly get there should miss this opportunity to catch a glimpse of all the world—its manufactures, its habits, its people. Just a word about the expense. The newspapers have done the Fair and the city of Chicago a great injustice in representing that prices of everything are exorbitant, and, indeed, unequalled. Restaurant bills of fare have exactly the same prices attached that you find in any large city. Good lodging in nice, comfortable houses may be had anywhere for \$1 a day. Of course the biggest hotels charge more, but even they are no higher than hotels of corresponding grade in other large cities. The Woman's Dormitory takes ladies at forty cents a day; and the Family Dormitory, with a trifle better accommodations, get fifty. They sell shares containning twenty-five and twenty coupons, which are transferable, and are each good for a day's lodging at the above price. A mother with children, or a mixed party would do well to try the Family Dormitory. Good meals may be had at the building



A CHANCE TO RIDE 264 FEET HIGH.

and save car fare. You may take your dinner on the grounds, at restaurants or carry it with you and eat it where you please and save paying more than one admission a day. You needn't buy catalogues as everything is plainly marked. In fact, you will be surprised to find how many ways you can economize. At the same time you must not stint yourself for food, and be regular at meals. You must be careful about the drinking water; you must avoid drafts and exposure; and you must not cut down your expenses so low that you will more than make up for them in doctor's bills after you get home.

I have noticed with pleasure the many prizes offered by the publishers of the most excellent of all papers—Comport.

I wonder if the publishers did not mean to signalize the World's Fair year, and intend to give some of you a chance to earn the money to help take you there? I see the prizes are to be awarded in September; and that and October are the best months to go. Somebody is going to win all these prizes; are you one of them? If you do, you can't use the money better than by letting it take you to see our National pride:

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HELEN M. WINSLOW.



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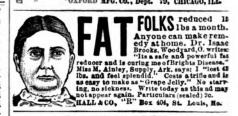
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ARE all familiar with the oftquoted saying, "None so blind as
Othose that will not see." The
ostrich hides his head in a hole
and thinks he is a very wise bird.
There are, unfortunately, a
large number of housekeepers just like the ostrich;
they hide their heads, and
blind their eyes, and they
won't see, and you can't
make them see that
beter than those their
mothers and grandmothers and grandmothers and grandmothers had betore
them. They keep on
in the old ruts, the
machinery of their
households creaking
and groaning along on
rusty wheels, and refuse to learn anything
new. Let us hope none
of the readers of CoMFORT are among
their number.
To get up to the top
of any career, whether
it be keeping house, or
carrying on a trade or
a profession, one must
be on the look-out continually for new ideas.
The world progresses,

a profession, one must be on the look-out continually for new ideas. The world progresses, and those who are not ever on the alert to progress with it are left way behind and drop out, ignominious failures.

We must bear this in mind, too, that it is in mind, too, that it is in mind, too, that it is we are likely to find them anywhere, and alas for ou sif we are too blind, too stupid, or too obstinate to accept them when they come in our way.

I was sweeping a room one day in the very early days of my housekeeping when a neighbor came in to call. I received her where I was, and as she glanced at the partially swept floor she said:

"I would like to give you an idea about sweeping, if you won't be offended."

"I should be delighted to hear it," I answered, readily.

"Don't wait until your carpet is all sweet over be-

the sale of the seed of the sale of the sa

1682

has fine, soft bristles on the end as well as on one side. A very good wall-brush like that seen in the illustration can be bought for \$1.50. The pictures, the window panes, and the shades need careful dusting every week, but are sometimes neglected by the careless housekeeper. Indeed it is a work of time thoroughly to sweep and dust a room, but a little brushing up and dusting every day makes the weekly sweeping a much lighter task, just as the careful housekeeper who keeps things neat as she goes along, conquers the bugbear, annual house-cleaning.

In the long summer mornings often a part of the sweeping can be done before breakfast in the cool of the day, and wise is that woman who is on hand to do it. Better to rise early, get ahead with the work, then lie down and rest later in the day than to leave all the work to be hurried through when the day is at the hottest. I am a believer in early rising, "He who rises late may trot all day and not have overtaken his business at night," said Benjamin Franklin; and Dean Swift declared that he "never knew any man come to greatness or eminence who lay in bed of a morning."



BASKET FOR SERVING EGGS

And this brings me around to where I left off last

about a tablespoonful of melted butter, fry a delicate brown, fold one side over the other in the pan, and serve at once. It should be folded almost as soon as it begins to set in order to have it light and foamy inside. It ruins an omelet to let it cook until it is dry and solid.

A Potato Omelet may be made by substituting for the bread crumbs one cup of cold mashed potato, and using the same number of eggs as the above with one-half cup of milk. This can be baked, if preferred, in a well-buttered baking dish of earthen ware in which it must be served upon the table as soon as taken from the oven.

A Veal Omelet may be made with three cups of finely chopped veal, one cup of bread crumbs, one cup of milk, two eggs, and salt and pepper to taste. This may also be baked if preferred. A meat and potato omelet is made with two cups of mashed potato, two cups of ment chopped fine, two table-spoonfuls of melted butter, two eggs well beaten, and one cup of milk. Season to taste and bake in a buttered dish in a quick oven.

All these are very appetizing dishes, particularly for hot weather, and but little trouble to prepare. It is only in families where the income is a large one that beefsteak and chops ought to be a regular feature of the morning meal. In families where there is any necessity for economy the one who plans the meals and does the marketing has absolutely no right to indulge in those luxuries which are beyond the yearly income, and it is wholly unnecessary to do so if the mistress of the house will take a little pains to study up relishing and nourishing dishes at moderate cost. People in moderate circumstances as a rule spend too much on the table. Expensive cuts of meat are undoubtedly more delicious, and easier to prepare. It is very pleasant to have them; and even so it is very pleasant to keep a carriage, and to go away on delightful summer trips, and to have a handsome house and furniture; but the important point to consider is whether or not we can afford the very edicate "Rice Griddle Cake" is ma

being inside the pitcher there is no drip on the tablecloth.

Green Corn Griddle Cakes are something everybody enjoys in summer, and this is the recipe: Two
cups of grated corn, two tablespoonfuls of cream or
milk, three eggs, a tablespoonful of melted butter,
and flour enough to make the corn hold together.
Salt to the taste. Try a little of the batter first to see
if ti is thick enough, if not add more flour. Beat the
batter every time before taking it out the pan.

Another recipe for Corn Griddle Cakes is one pint
of grated sweet corn, one teaspoonful of salt, one
beaten egg, one tablespoonful of milk, one tablespoonful of melted butter, and two heaping tablespoonfuls of flour with a saltspoonful of baking powder. Drop little cakes on a hot griddle and fry
brown.

But I must not monopolize any more space to-day.
I fear I have already overstepped my bounds. I
hope, however, that I shall have inclined some housekeeper to greater vigilance, and renewed endeavors
after perfection, which we should all aim after in
whatever sphere we are placed.

OLIVE MORTON.



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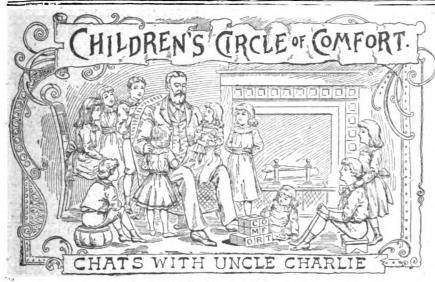
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ing home runs.

It is the largest building ever erected in the world. It is 1,687 feet long and 787 feet wide. It took five car-loads of nails and three million feet of lumber to make the floor alone. You look astonished, Johnnie, but what will you think when I say this floor covers forty-four acres?

think when I say this floor covers forty-four acres?

Big enough for a comfortable farm isn't it?

We can only go across one end of it to-day, for want of time.

We cannot see down to the other entrance, it is so far. Look at all the beautiful things; china, glass-ware, jewelry, furs, stuffed animals, furniture, mirrors, clocks, watches, and, indeed, everything that is manufactured can be seen here, coming from all the countries in the world. And in the center is an elevator that takes us to the top of this immense building, where we can see all over the grounds.

"How large are the grounds, Uncle Charlie?"

They cover 613 square acres, and it only takes 640 to make a square unile, yon know. But come, we must be going. We will come out by this door, which opens on to the lagoon or lake.

"O, see those beautiful little boats."

Those are gondolas, Jennie, such as they use in Venice. We will get into one, and have the queer, foreign boatman row us around the lagoon, which winds in and out among all the principal buildings. Over there are the Electrical and the Mines Buildings. Beyond is the



GONDOLAS.

Transportation Building, where you can see all the different vehicles that were ever made, from the first cart or wheel-barrow down to the finest railway-trains of to-day. You can see George Stephenson's engine, President Madison's coach, an Eskimo sledge, an East Indian sedan chair, a Japanese jinrikishaw, or an African palanquin. And you can see beautiful victorias and landaus and phætons and dogcarts of to-day

rectorias and landaus and phaetons and dog-carts of to-day.

Now look on the other side as we glide along.
Do you see this imposing white dome? This is the Government Building. It has exhibits from all the government departments at Wash-ington, and a great many historical relies be-sides. The original Declaration of Independ-ence, enclosed in a carefully guarded glass case, is here. It was brought from Washington, with other priceless papers, in a steel chest, in a special car. The beautiful and costly presents given to General Grant on his trip around the world are here; also stuffed animals of all kinds, and a great quantity of Indian relies would interest you too, if we had time to stop. But we must nass on to the Fisheries Build-The first man selection was a special car. The beautiful and costly presents given to General Grant on his trip around the world are here; also stuffed animals of all kinds, and a great quantity of Indian relics would interest you too, if we had time to stop.

But we must pass on to the Fisheries Building. Here you find everything that lives in sea, lake or river. In a circular building 135 feet in diameter is the largest and most complete aquaruim ever seen.

Don't you know what an aquarium is, Florence? Why, it is a great glass tank filled with water, in which fish can live and swim about. Grandma's little bowl of gold-fish is one, on a small scale. This one contains several thousand gallons of water in each tank. The tanks containing marine fish are filled with water. It is brought by rail from Wood's Holl, on the Atlantic Coast, 1,200 miles away. It is evaporated first to about one-fifth of its bulk, then shipped in big tanks. In Chicago, Lake Michigan water is added to make it of the proper density again. Now we are going under one of the pretty arched bridges that go over

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Ow, children of the COMPORT Circle, just imagine you are in the Lagoon, and are passing the foreign buildings. See, they are labeled, Nicircaga, Brazil, Germany, Spain, Guatemala, Norway, France, Ceylon and so on. These are the headquarters of Chicago, and we have a choice of railway trains, cable cars or the steamboats. The last is the best way, though, for it gives you a ride on the edge of Lake Michigan. Look in your geographies to-morrow and see just where we go.

"What are all those white buildings out in front of us, Uncle Charille?"

Why, that is the "White City."

Tomnie, as the World's Fair is called. See, now we get nearer and are coming up to the long pier in front of a great white building with a big dome. Let us get off and walk up to the entrance.

Here we extractly the state of the manath of the state turns it around. Once inside we go past the Casino and Music Hall and right up to the Main Building, which is built for the Manufactures and Liberal Arts. This is the largest the others.

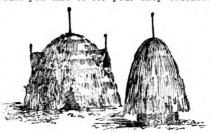
Why, you know how large a piece of ground it takes to play base ball on, boys? Well, now listen. If all the Base Ball Clubs in the National League were here to-day, they could all play matched games in the Main Building at once, and still have room to spare for making home runs.

It is the largest building ever erected in the world. It is 1,857 feet long and 787 feet wide. It took five car-loads of nails and three million feet of lumber to make the floor alone. You look astonished, Johnnie, but what will you acres?

Big erough for a comfortable farm isn't it?

Big erough or a comfortable farm isn't it?

Big eroug



SOUDANESE HUTS.

Well, that is just what they do. Supposing you were allowed to bring little Willie here, and he being so small, bothered you so you could not see much of the Fair? You would bring him to the children's building. A nurse would take lim, fasten a check on his clothing, and give you the duplicate, exactly as the baggage-master checks your trunk. Then you would give you the duplicate, exactly as the baggage-master checks your trunk. Then you would give you would stay behind, amusing himself with blocks, books, rocking-horses, etc.; and when you came back you would present your check, claim your baby and go home!

We must stop a moment at the Horticultural Building. Did you ever see so many flowers and palms? Step in to this wing and look at the piles of oranges, and that great archas high as a house made of them. These are all from California. And there are apples, pears, grapes and all kinds of fruit, both preserved and fresh, from all the western states. Isn't it hard work to keep our hands off?

But the time is passing, and we haven't even looked towards the Midway Plaisance, which is, to children, much the most interesting part of the Fair. It is off to one side instead of being in the middle as the name indicates. You see this long walk with queer looking houses on each side? This is it, and foreigners from all over the world are here with their native wares displayed in buildings just like those they have at home.

Here are some glass-works, where they are making vases, cups, and all sorts of things. Let us come in Here is a great furnace in the center of the room. Men are poking long iron bars inside its doors, and taking out great red-hot lumps of something. What is it! Why, it is melted glass. See them run to those moulds. Look at this man. He droops his sat stwenty men with brushes, have been of great fars the result of the corp.



shades and cushions and glove-cases. Those are all made of woven glass. We haven't time to stay here any longer. Let us go into this Japanese house.

"O, Uncle Charlie, see those lovely teacups."

Yes, and look over in that corner at those carved ivory images. And see what the Japanese children play with! Here are spiders six inches across; great green frogs; skeletons; butterflies; dolls of all kinds. See the fireworks and balloons. And here are dogs and owls and goslings; and, O, watch that toyrooster feeding himself! I reckon the Japanese children have plenty to amuse themselves with children have plenty to amuse themselves with

Now we must go on again.

"What are those queer looking houses, Uncle?"

That is the Javanese village, children. The Island of Java is situated in the Pacific Ocean where it is always warm, so they only have those palm leaf houses, with large piazzas. See their queer little wind-mills, made of reeds. Really, their houses are very pretty, made of different colored reeds and strips of palm woven like matting. I can see by Johnnie's looks that he intends to make a westher-vane like that when matting. I can see by Johnnie's looks that he intends to make a weather-vane like that when



JAVANESE HOUSE AND WIND-MILL.

Just beyond here are some Soudanese huts. Look on your maps of Africa and find Soudan. These poor natives look as if they found this a pretty cold world. O, there is the Soudanese baby! He is only eighteen months old; and see him dance! He is earning many a quarter for his parents by his grotesque little steps. How would you like to live in a hut like that?

Here is a gaily dressed Egyptian girl with a basket of flowers. What does she say?
"Buy flowers, Ta-ra-ra-boom!"

Idon't wonder you laugh, boys. But a good many of these foreigners cannot speak a word of English, and that sentence, which they have heard sung ever since they landed in America, is the first phrase they have picked up.

What is the big, gaily colored building op-posite? O, that is Hagenbeck's wonderful trained animal's show. He is from Germany and has caught and trained beasts from African jungles to perform the most curious tricks. He has never struck them a blow or treated them with anything but kindness; but they obey him in everything, and are as tame as kittens.

Dear me! Look at the clock. Our time is up. We shall have to go home now; but we will surely come here the first thing next month. Ned, don't you let me forget to tell you all about those wonderful animals.

UNCLE CHARLIE.

WORLD'S FAIR ITEMS.

The Fair has cost already, \$33,243,930.55. A travelling sidewalk is a curiosity of the Fair. 620,000 people attended the opening exercises May First.

The Krupp gun exhibit has cost nearly a million dollars.

Cars on the sliding railway run at a speed of 100 miles an hour. "Midway Plaisance" means the middle pleasure-

The California section has a tower of oranges 30 feet high.

The national museum sent from Washington six car-loads of exhibits.

Painting machines which paint or kalsomine as fast as twenty men with brushes, have been of great service in the construction of the larger buildings.

Austria's exhibit was finished first. It includes a remarkable display of Bohemian and other glass-ware, leather goods, and beautiful house-decorations.

Drinking water thoroughly filtered and toilet-rooms are free to all visitors at the Fair. Mineral water is sold at 1 cent a glass. There are 1,500 free toilet-rooms.

Sea water is almost as expensive in Chicago as beer. It is used for keeping salt-water fish in tanks, and is carefully prevented from wasting. 70,000 gal-lons are in constant use.

President Cleveland is variously known among the foreigners at the Fair as sultan, caliph, pasha, rajah, ahkoond, khedive, emir, bey, negus, nawab, nizam, khan, sheik and vizier of the United States.

Among Indian curiosities of the Exposition, are a Winnebago mat-house, an Omaha sod-house, a Sioux buffalo-hide tepee, totem-poles from Vancouver and an Iriquois birch-bark cance.

Seventy Javanese have a village in the Plaisance. Their huts are of bamboo poles and palm leaves thatched with the native grass of Java. The Javanese dancing girls attract much attention.

The half-dollar price of admission admits to everything in the Fair grounds, except the Turkish Theatre, the Egyptian Temple, the Cairo street, the Japanese village, and the wonderful exhibition of trained animals.

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The ruby is the lucky stone for July. It is said to be able to discover poison and cure all troubles springing from the unkindness of friends.

Don't fail to try for one or more of the splendid cash prizes offered by Comfort and about which full particulars appear elsewhere in

The lucky days for July are said to be the 4th, 5th, 6th, 9th, 10th, 15th, 19th, 21st, 25th; while the unlucky ones are set down as the 3rd, 7th, 11th, 17th, 20th, 22nd, 27th, 28th and

All the readers of Comfort will feel a deep interest in the article in this issue entitled, 'Fair Notes by One of the Fair Sex." It is by Comfort's accomplished special correspondent, Miss Helen M. Winslow, who, during her visit to Chicago, collected material for her series of articles for Comfort, and was honored by the Women's Congress, then in session, before whom she read a very interesting paper. Miss Winslow, who is a shrewd observer, will contribute to the next issue of Comfort an article prepared especially for women, and which will give some account of the Women's Congress. Readers of COMFORT are sure to anpreciate the efforts which the publishers of the paper have made to give them the best information possible in regard to the Columbian

With the chance of a cholera scare, a chance that goes hand in hand with summer in the minds of timid people, it is not out of place to give the readers of Comfort a hint or two Don't get frightened whatever you do. A nervous mind invites disaster. Keep cool and keep clean. Be regular and sensible in all matters of diet, avoiding green fruits and iced drinks, most especially ice-water. In fact, be sensible; that is within the power of everyone. But if you do feel ill, especially if you have symptoms of stomach or bowel troubles, attend to it at once. It is well, as a precaution, to keep the Sun Cholera cure always at hand, and by this time the simple formula for that must be known to all readers of Comfort, as it has several times been published in its columns. In the meantime, as an encouragement, remember that being a fairly clean country, cholera is little likely to strike us, but don't remember it to the extent of being careless.

The death of Edwin Booth is felt all over this country as a personal loss. No actor was more extensively known, or so deeply loved as he was. He was an honor to the profession he adopted and the last example of a school of acting that virtually dies with him. From his birth to his grave he seemed marked as a special target for disaster. His childhood was sad, his early professional years unprofitable, his married life, which started out so happily, cut short by the death of his wife before she was twenty-two years old. But as some compensation the public loved him doubly for the grief that he bore, and when to all other sorrows cruel chance led his younger brother to assassinate Lincoln and throw a nation into terror, the grief that prostrated the popular valrous regard the chi the mourners. From that day the nation seemed to feel for the actor an even tenderer love than ever. Booth's generosity was proverbial. No actor in this country ever felt such a duty toward his profession as he did. No fellow-actor ever went to him for aid and failed to receive it, while many a manager has been saved from ruin by his unsolicited assistance. Yet no one ever heard of these things from him. He did not wait for death to will his money to his fellow-actors. He generously provided them with a refuge in the way of one of the finest clubs in the world, and he did it while he could see the result, and be associated with it. No amount of success, of adulation, of financial prosperity could ever put a barrier between him and his fellow-actors as it has done in the case of so many other great stars. He was first and always an actor, and he impressed that fact upon the world by associating his entire existence with them. His life was as gentle as it was sad. A loyal gentleman, true citizen, great artist, and generous friend, none but loving thoughts followed him to his grave where he rests beside his young wife whose

loss saddened his whole life. The world looks in vain for his successor.

"After life's fitful fever he sleeps well."

As the children wave their Fourth of July flags, it is well to remind them of a holiday just passed which will be forever linked by the stars and stripes to the greater national celebration.

The best way to make children remember and respect a date, is to red-letter the day in their calendar of school-going, by making it a holiday.

June 14 has already been so under-lined. More than half the cities in the Union have made it a play-day for school children.

It is the day that marks the birth of the starpangled banner.

We are a nation made from many nations but we have but one flag. All who live under it should be taught to forget all other banners, to know no allegiance save for the red, white and blue emblem which since June 14, 1777, has been the rallying point for all the States.

The history of this flag is very interesting. Every reader of COMFORT should be familiar

Early in June, 1777, a committee was appointed to present designs for a national flag, and although little is now known in regard to this committee it is certain that John Adams. the stern old Massachusetts Puritan, was the leading spirit.

On the 14th of the month, the committee recommended: "That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars. white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

This was unanimously accepted. The thirteen stripes represented the original States, and red and white was chosen for their color as making a striking combination easily seen and recognized at a distance. The thirteen stars in the Union were arranged in a circle, that appropriate form being the symbol of eternity.

The flag was first floated September 3rd of the same year when bold Paul Jones, the first great naval hero the States ever had, ran it up at mast head of the brig "Ranger," when he prepared to put out to sea and terrorize the British merchant ships. It was first flown on land a little later during the campaign which resulted in Howe's capture of Philadelphia.

The banner remained unchanged in appearance until 1816, when a committee suggested the propriety of making some alterations in it. Capt. Reid, a famous naval hero, advocated the addition of a star for each new State, and this new regulation, approved by President Monroe, went into effect in 1818.

It is the habit of life that that to which we become accustomed fails to impress us, but it should be the duty of every loyal mother in the land, and of every conscientious teacher to make sure that the school children understand why the 14th of June has been made a play-day for them; so that "the star-spangled banner" shall mean something more to them than the name of a popular song. It may be that the red, white and blue banner will never again be seen through the smoke of battle, leading the brave men of the nation to death, but, nevertheless, as it "floats o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave," no child who enjoys the peace and plenty that have been won under it in the past, should ever be able to view it with indifference.

A correspondent intimates that one of the prize stories in the June number of Comfort, was not original. With a view to determining the truth of this claim, we offer a cash prize of \$10 to any one will furnish satisfactory proof that Comfort readers have been imposed upon. On receipt of such evidence the fraud will be promptly exposed in these columns.

EDITOR COMFORT:—Your paper enjoys the rare distinction of going into more homes than any other periodical in America and, for ought I know, in the world. That is something of which any editor might well be proud. The fact of its immense circulation surely speaks volumes for its popularity, and it must be a great favorite in more than a million homes. In these homes are many thousands of the brightest young people of our public schools, and it is from among these—both boys and girls, between the ages of 13 and 21—that the delegates are selected for the World's Youth's Congress which is to be held in Chicago, July 17 and 18 next, under the auspices of the World's Congress Auxiliary of the Columbian Exposition.

World's Youth's Congress which is to be held in Chicago, July 17 and 18 next, under the auspices of the World's Congress Auxiliary of the Columbian Exposition.

Delegates will be present from every country on earth, and an appointment as one of these delegates will be the greatest honor ever conferred upon any American youth.

I am sure the young readers of a paper like Composition of the country; and if you will permit me to do so through your columns, I will say to them that I should be very much pleased, as Secretary of the Coumittee in charge of this Congress, to send them official notification of their appointment as delegates. All they will have to do, doubtless, to be nominated is to call the attention of their teacher to the fact that all schools are invited to nominate delegates. We desire the nominations to come through the teachers as a guarantee that our delegates are worthy the honor thus bestowed upon them.

Some of the most eminent men and women in America are on the program of exercises for this Congress, and we expect a goodly number from abroad. Young people therefore who are privileged to attend this unique gathering will not soon forget what they there see and hear, and, even if they cannot attend, their appointment will be something of which they need never blush to speak.

It is proposed, too, to hold a "home session" of this Congress on Discovery Day—Oct. 21st next, in all the sessions at Chicago will be invited to report some of the things they saw and heard; and here let me say that schools could do no better than to interest themselves in being represented at Chicago to the extent of either giving an entertainment to raise funds to defray the expenses of their delegate, or else circulating a subscription.

One of the greatest things to be accomplished during the sessions of this Congress is the organization of a World's Youth's Association for the accomplishment of international patriotism, peace and fraternization. This Congress presents the supreme occasion for the inauguration of su

cclat and circumstance. There is not a reader of ComFORT but will desire to become a member.

It is to be hoped that all who read this will immediately see that their schools are represented in
the Congress by a delegate. Let no time before the
17th of July be thought too late to make the appointments, and let there be no hesitancy for fear those
appointed cannot attend. The honor will be theirs
whether they attend or not.

F. FREDERICK BLISS,
Secretary of Committee, World's Youth Congress,
Chicago, Ill.

Chicago, Ill.

Tramp Cats and Vagrant Dogs.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HELEN M. WINSLOW.

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NE man may not like cats, and another one may not like dogs, but it is a strange person who does not like one or

it is a strange person who does not like one or the other.

There is an unique in stitution near Boston, known as The Ellen M. Gifford Sheltering Home for Animals. The title explains the place; except that, so far, the beneficiaries have been mostly cats and dogs.

A little more than ten mostly cats and dogs.

A little more than ten beneficiaries have been mostly cats and dogs.

A little more than ten beneficiaries and determined to devote a portion of her money to its alleviation.

She went out into the Boston suburb known as the Brighton District, and purchased several acres of land. On this she built a quaint little brick house for the superintendent. Back of this is a "dog-house" cacommodating fifty or seventy-five canines. It is a long, low structure, with a central passage-way, on each side of which are little compartments, each constituting a private kennel. The main passage-way leads into the large yard enclosed by a high fence, where the dogs are let loose at certain hours for exercise.

Not far away is the "eat-house," built on a similar

where the dogs are let loose at certain hours for ex-recise.

Not far away is the "cat-house," built on a similar plan, except that instead of kennels there are shelves where each cat can have a separate bed. Pussy, too, has a large yard, with a very high wire-netting fence, up which she can crawl but cannot get over. Inside are several posts and dead trees with the bark left on, which the cats can climb up on and sharpen their claws.

Of course, the cats and dozs, never, come, together.

are several posts and clear to the con, which the cats can climb up on and sharpen their claws.

Of course, the cats and dogs never come together, so that they do not "lead a cat and dogs life."

"Where do these animals come from?"

They are all estrays. It is not a boarding place for pets. It is a "sheltering home" for sick and friendless animals. Strange as it may seem, there are many people who call themselves tender-hearted, who will go away on a vacation, or perhaps move from a neighborhood and leave their cat behind to shift for itself; or, about the time for the assessor's annual visit, will turn their dogs loose and abandon them, especially in the case of females, on which the tax is five dollars a year. Others still, who have superfluous puppies or kittens, will carry them into strange localities and leave them to shift for themselves—perhaps to starve.

In crowded cities it is almost impossible for thesanimals to forage for themselves, and the abandoned creatures lead a hard life, or else die. In Boston, most people know about the Sheltering Home, and homeless animals are pretty sure to be sent by some kind-hearted person to that haven of refuge. Stray cats must be boxed up and sent by express, prepaid;



on an average, and fifty or sixty dogs.
The cats are kept on milk, with an occasional bone. The institution keeps a cow, but not even the greatest 'milker' in the land could keep 100 cats a day, and the monthly milk-bill of the Home is something remarkable. The dogs are fed on a substantial broth of soup bones, with bread broken up in it, and are also allowed to gnaw the bones. Each dog is fed in his own kennel, so that he knows his own quarters and seeks them when he comes indoors.

up in it, and are also allowed to gnaw the bones. Each dog is fed in his own kennel, so that he knows his own quarters and seeks them when he comes indoors.

The cats, however, are fed together, and have no chosen shelf of their own, each going to the place she fancies for the moment.

A visit to the Sheltering Home is most interesting to a lover of animals. It is not a noisy place, as one might think. Cats are proverbially quiet. When the dogs occasionally break out into loud barking and confusion, Mr. Perkins, the superintendent, goes out into the yard, picks out the leader in the mutiny; and taking him by the collar, marches him off to his kennel to endure solitary confinement for a time. Then the rest quiet down and all goes well again.

There is a little pond on the place, and at times, the fifty or sixty dogs are turned out of their play-yard and allowed to run over the place. They inevitably take a bee-line for the water, jump in and swim around to their heart's content. When the superintendent wants to shut them up again, he blows on a peculiar whistle which he carriers, and every dog trots back to the house, and into his own kennel.

"How long are these animals given a home there?"

As long as they live, unless some one who can duraish evidence of kind treatment and a good home, offers to buy or adopt one of these strays. Seven or eight dogs a month, and about as many cats, are given away, although great care is used that none go into the hands of vivisectors, or become the victims of other scientific cruelties. Both cats and dogs seem happy and contented, and look sleek and comfortable. No animal is put to death there-unless it has a contagious disease.

Mrs. Gifford died several years ago, leaving large amounts to many charities. Of course, she endowed the Sheltering Home which bears her name.

During the past year its work has been extended on a plan which she formed.

amounts to many charities. Of course, she endowed the Sheltering Home which bears her name. During the past year its work has been extended on a plan which she formed.

A stable with seven stalls has been built, and provision is made for old, disabled horses. At present, there are two of these faithful beasts who patiently served their masters for many years, and now enjoy a life of idleness and ease.

There is a home for such horses in London, where disabled equines may go for recuperation; and, when restored to health and strength, are exchanged for others who need the same kind of care. The ladies who have this Home in charge have a similar plan but have not yet carried it into complete operation. Although the Home is endowed, additional funds are necessary to do this work for horses. A good many contributions have already been received—the very first of which was from a dozen little girls who got up a fair and gave the proceeds—a few dollars—to the Sheltering Home.

Two quotations are especially appropriate to this humane institution: "Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy," and "A merciful man is merciful to his beast."

HAPPENINGS HERE AND THERE.

Ex-president Gonzales of Mexico, who died in May, left his family \$7,000,000. Two Danbury, Conn., farmers castured a wild cat four feet long in a trap recently.

John Ruskin has been made poet-laureate of England to succeed Lord Tennyson.

The greatest depth in the Atlantic Ocean is near St. Thomas Island, where it reaches 3,875 fathoms.

15,000,000 feet of logs broke through the boom and scaped in one day this spring at Williamsport, Pa.

The tallest pillar in the world is the Kutub Minar, n Delhi, India. It is 250 feet high, and 2,200 years

A terrible cyclone recently struck Cisco, Texas, demolished 250 buildings, killed 30 people and fatally injured 10 more

Stolen jewelry worth \$100,000 was recently recovered in Williamsburg, N. Y., which belongs to the Count of Flanders.

All trades-unions in England have combined with the miners, seamen's and firemen's unions for the mutual protection of the interests of each.

A man was killed by artificial lightning the other night in Berlin. He was trying to produce a flash of lightning by electric carbons at a theatre and re-ceived his death shock.

Blair Irwin is going to walk from Boston to the World's Fair this summer, dressed in his uniform of the famous "Light Brigade." He was in the battles of Lucknow, Balaklava and Sebastopol, and has been in America thirty years.

in America thirty years.

A United States Senator recently stopped at a school-house near his Kansas home, to make inquiry of the teacher, in regard to certain local affairs. The school-mistress had just heard that an escaped lunatic was in the neighborhood, and when she saw her distinguished visitor she fied through a rear door, and ran like a deer, When she discovered her mistake and returned, the Senator had disappeared.

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EDITOR'S NOTE. The following rules govern the publication of all matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular sub-scribers to Comfort, and every contribution must bear the writer's own name and post office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may reach 650. Contributors must write on one side of their paper only.

Every month a number of prize monograms composed of the writer's initials, will be awarded to those sending the best contributions. These monograms, which will be most desirable ornaments for stationery, cards, etc., will be printed in connection with the respective letters, and new electrotypes of same will be mailed, post paid, to the prize winners.

SPECIAL CASH PRIZES.

In order to still further increase interest and encourage competition in this department, the following cash prizes are offered:

1st. For the best original letter received between May Ist and September 1st, \$10.00.

2nd. For the second best original letter, \$7.50 ard. "third "5.00 third "5.00 third "5.00 third "5.00 third "5.00 third "6.00 third "6.00 third "6.00 third "6.00 the competition positively closes September first, and awards will be published in the October issue. The above is in addition to the Monogram prizes and the rules here printed must be carefully observed. This competition is open to every regular paid-up yearly subscriber to "Comfort" who shall, in addition to being a subscriber himself, send the name of at least one new subscriber, with 25 cents (to pay for a year's subscription) for each new subscriber so sent.

Letters must not exceed 650 words in length, and should be as short as possible. Short letters will receive the preference over long ones.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

PRIZE MONOGRAM WINNERS FOR JULY.

May Mott-Smith, William Hogan,
Lola C. Gregory, Willie P. Ames,
Addle F. Smith, E. B. M. Cecchini,
Frank L. Van Dermark, Adelia J. Slagle,
Leon A. Reeves.

EAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES:

I am glad to notice that there is a steady improvement in your letters. Although some are still carelessly written and badly spelled, most of the Coasins are taking more pains than formerly, both with style and subjects. Be sure you have something interesting to say, and then see how concisely and correctly you can say it. The following letter, telling how sperm whales are caught, is a model, and I hope you will study is style, as well as its interesting matter.

PERM whales are not



the see how conclacly and correctly you can say it. The following letter, telling how sperm whales are not the strip of th

working night and day in six-hour watches, clean ship, return to the usual watches, and look out for another whale."

AMY L. SWIPT, BOX 335, Whitman, Mass.

change.

"As soon as the blubber is all on board the 'trying out' begins. After being cut into suitable pieces, and run through a mincing machine that slices them halfway through at short distances, the blubber is deposited in the try-pots, and cooked until the oil is deposited out; then the pieces known as 'scraps' are skimmed out and either used for fuel, or thrown overboard. After standing in the tanks a day or two verboard. After standing in the tanks a day or two decks,' and the tired, greasy men, who have been decks



uniform, and during his stay at the academy a cadets' pay is \$540 per year. Once admitted, life begins in earnest. They live in camp until the latter part of Angust, and a newly made cadet's first summer is called his 'plebe-camp.' It takes pluck to live it through, but the discipline does them good and makes men of them. The last of August they break camp and move into barracks. It is there that their studies are pursued and examinations are held semi-annually. Four years from the time they enter (if they pass all examinations on June 12th of each year), straight as arrows, dressed in their gray uniforms, with black braid and big brass buttons, the first classmen receive the parchment, which declares them proficient in all branches of study pursued, and all military drills performed at the academy. Now they are each one ready in case of war to go forth in the thickest of the fight, and defend his country."

ADDIE F. SMITH, Columbus, Indiana.

The following Cousin has received a monogram for a previous letter; but he sends a most instructive letter, which must be published entire.

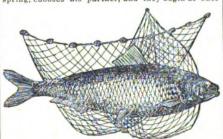
"It was through the mining of gold that California became known to the world. Before that very few

working right and day in atthemer watches, closed such as the southery cached considered with a property of the control of the



I think you will all like to know about shad-fish-ng in the Delaware.

"In the winter, a man that is going to fish the next spring, chooses his partner, and they begin at once





SUNSHINE comes, no matter how dark the clouds are, when the woman who is borne down by woman's troubles turns to Dr. Pierce's Fav-orite Prescription. If her orite Prescription. If her life is made gloomy by the chronic weaknesses, delicate derangements, and painful disorders that affilict her sex, they are completely cured. If she's overworked, nervous, or "run-down," she has new life and strength.

"Favorite Prescription" is a powerful, invigorating

"Favorite Prescription" is a powerful, invigorating tonic and a soothing and strengthening nervine, purely vegetable, perfectly harmless. It regulates and promotes all the proper functions of womanhood, improves digestion, enriches the blood, dispels aches and pains, brings refreshing sleep, and restores health and vigor. For every "female complaint" and disturbance, it is the only remedy so sure and unfailing that it can be guaranteed.

If it doesn't benefit or cure, you have your money back.

money back.

18 SQUARE Inches Old Gold, Red, Blue, Pink or White Satin, all stamped, suitable for Pin Cushlena. Sachet, etc., sent for 10 cents silver. MILLINER, Box X Augusta, Mainro

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Nichols Mfg. Co., 378 Canal St., New York.

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and return it to us with 10c silver or stamps, and we will nour Agents' Directory, You will get thousands of Papers, Cards, Magazines, Novelues, etc., from publishers and manufacturers who wantagents. DON'T SIRST HIS DU tsend at once, you will be well pleased, WESTERN MAIL CO. St. Louis, Mo.

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To introduce goods quickly I make this liberal offer: will give any lady One Dozen Ten Spoons, Heavy Silves plated, latest artistic design, warranted to wear, who will dispose of 1 Dozen Boxes of Hawley's Corn Salve (curs warranted) among friends, at 95 a box I sals no money is advance, simply send your name; I mail you salve, postage paid. When sold you send the money and I will mail you the I dozen handsome Tea Spoons. I take salve back if you can't sell. I run all the risk. Address R. HAWLEY. Chemist, Berlin, Wisconsin

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A REMARKABLE OFFER Send 4c, in postage stamps, age, sex and, receive a diagnosis of your disease free. Address J. C. BATDORF, M. D., Grand Rapids, Mich.

RODS and Dip-Needles for Prospectors, Miners and Treasure Seekers. Prospectors and Miner's Agency, Bachmanville, Pa

\$25 A WEEK paid ladies who write for me at home. Address with stamped envelope CAMILLA C. AVERY, SOUTH BEND, IND.

ACCIVITS Wanted to sell Electric Belts on commission, Address, SANDEN ELECTRIC CO., 826 Broadway, New York

ascend the river until warmer weather. When they are ready to fish they lay off their net (which is done by a man in the stern of the boat), then they drift with the tide, rowing at their leisure. The next thing they do is to haul in and examine their nets, which are generally in a tangle and often torn by larger fishes. Sometimes they catch ten and at others hundreds of fish. About April 1st, if the weather is warm, they come up the river, and bring their cabins on land they live in them, doing their own cooking, and fish within the New Jersey limits. About the middle of April the shad begin to come up the river and then the fishermen go out from shore after them. After each trial their net has to be brought ashore and untangled and dried on long poles. A large boat or steamer stops night and morning at their wharf, and carries the fish to Philadelphia where it is sold on small commission." LEON A. REEVES, Paulsborough, N. J.

Did you ever see a blind child? Is it not comforting to know that they can be taught to read and sew and work? I have seen a blind girl thread and run a sewing machine.

"It is wonderful how the little blind people can find their desks without any trouble. At the time of my



IO

Did you ever see a blind child? Is it not comforting to know that they can be taught to read and sew and work? I have seen a blind girl thread and run a sewing machine.

"It is wonderful how the little blind people can find their desks without any trouble. At the time of my visit to the blind asylum the class was reciting English Literature, and the subject was Ben Johnson. The blind person runs his or her finger along the page and reads the matter through his finger tips. The letters are not printed but are in raised type. The books of the blind are very large, each one about the size of Webster's University of the blind are very large, each one about the size of Webster's University. The blind work examples in arithmetic on a little square slate divided into pigeon holes in which are placed type which they can move about. They study geography on raised maps, and each state and country can be taken apart from the rest, so that by the touch they tell the shape of the state or country. They take down dictation on a slip of paper by pricking small holes, and write from right to left. There are in the asylum at Baton Rouge about twenty boys and girls. Some of them are very bright and all show a decided preference for music. Mr. Clark, the professor of music at the asylum, is blind."

WM. Hodan, 308 Convention St., Baton Rouge, La.

Now I am going to give an extract from a fourteen year old Montana boy's letter. He lives on a big ranch, and enjoys life there very much.

"Father owns a band of sheep, and I herd them every day. I take Comport out with me to while away the time. In summer I herd the sheep out on the range, I herd them in father's field, and we feed them hay night and morning. I see lots of rabbits and prairie chickens when I am herding sheep, and once in a while apparite chickens when I am herding sheep, and once in a while apparite chickens when I am herding sheep, and once in a while apparite wolf or coyote. Coyotes are seldom seen in the summer time because they stay in the timber. But just as soon

How many have ever heard of Buzzard Roost way down in old Kentucky?



I must give an extract from an Oklahoma letter, telling of the time when it was opened as an Indian reservation.

Indian reservation.

"Oklahoma means 'beautiful land.' The time set for the opening was April 22, 1889, at 12 o'clock, noon. Any man who crossed the border before that time was not allowed to hold a claim. The land was divided into quarter sections. Each man was to ride into the country as fast as he chose, and stop where he liked, unless some other person was there before him. There were thousands of 'boomers,' as we were called, camping on the border. My husband with three comrades mounted their horses shortly before noon, on opening day, and rode down to the river, where thousands were waiting for the signal gun. Taking my two children I climbed up on the wagon. Taking my two children I climbed up on the wagon poor fellow on foot, eager for a home in Uncle Sam's domain; there a more fortunate brother on a fleet horse, leaving the pedestrian far behind; next a big road wagon, containing perhaps a dozen men, the driver lashing the horses mercilessly. There were road-carts, top-buggies and horses that were hired for \$100 for that day, and even ox carts, with the patient sad-eyed cattle going at a dignified trot in honor of the occasion. All this happened four years ago. Now, on every side are neat farm houses, green wheat fields, thriving orchards and a con-



trot in honor of the occasion. All this happened four years ago. Now, on every side are neat farm houses, green wheat fields, thriving orchards and a contented people.

ADELIA J. SLAGLE,
Box 32, Moore, Cleveland Co., Oklahoma.

Box 32, Moore, Cleveland Co., Oklahoma.

And now I want to refer the Cousins, one and all, to the Busy Bee column, and the Prize Puzzle Club corner, with their generous prize offers. Every woman and girl is interested in the former, and every member of the family in the other department. Note the conditions carefully, and then, "if at first you don't succeed, try, try again." Every Cousin, too, will enjoy the account of the World's Pair in the children's circle this month. The next thing to being there ourselves is to read about it.

AUNT MINERYA.

AUNT MINERVA.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

When a child falls and hurts its head, don't let it go to sleep for an hour or two, and you may avoid brain troubles.

For tarache mix a very few drops of sweet oil mixed with a like quantity of chloroform and wear a piece of coston moistened with it in the ear.

cases of bronchial or lung affections. A few drops on a handkerchief and held to the nose will often stop a

To drive away cockroaches and water-bugs, powdered borax in all crevices where they lurk, sprinkle it on shelves and mouldings. They never walk over it but once.

never walk over it but once.

Place in a bag of soft fiannel five or six inches square, bits of toilet soap too small for use, and then use it as a cake of soap. With expensive toilet soap this is a bit of economy not to be despised.

A good complexion mesk can easily be made at home by beating the white of an egg to a cream with a little rose-water, and adding one grain each of alum and sweet almond oil. Beat all to a paste and spread on muslin, to be worn over the face at night.

A sand-bag is an excellent thing to have in the house. Make it of strong cotton cloth about ten inches square and fill with fine clean sand. In cases of sickness, toothache or earache, heat it in the oven, as hot as it can be endured, and let the patient lie down and place it against the afflicted part. Salt is sometimes substituted for sand, but is more liable to raise a blister.

raise a blister.

To make a fireplace attractive in summer-time, fill it with the pretty dried or crystallized grasses, which are prized by many as mantel decorations in winter. Better still, have a long flat dish filled with water, and a standing vase or pitcher in the center. All through the summer season these can be kept filled with fresh wild flowers, apple blossoms, daisies, golden rod or asters, and will make a bright spot in the room.

COLD FACTS FOR HOT DAYS.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

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WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

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VERY one knows how Nature makes ice, but how many of those who know that there is such a thing as artificial ice, realize how generally it is being used in many large cities?

The use of ice is an American fad. Until a few years ago Americans traveling in Europe were the such a thin antional overage, and even now Englishment of the control of the contr

WHICH SHALL IT BE?

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HELEN M. WINSLOW. Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.



EARLY every civilized country in the world has a national flower except America!

France has the lilly, England the rose, Scotiand the thistle, Germany the Kaiser-blume, Ireland the shamrock, Japan the chrysanthemum, Canada the maple leaf, but America the "land of the free and the home of the brave" has none.

Why is this?

Probably because we have been too busy making a nation to find time to select a national emblem. But now that we are one of the great powers of the earth, we might settle on a popular flower, which, by universal suffrage, should be proclaimed our national one.

The matter has been

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Grated raw potatoes is an excellent remedy for burns.

Lime water on the earth around potted plants will dispose of earth-worms.

Fewdered borax, used in water for bathing purposes, will prevent chaing and chapping.

A large raisin cut open and heated very hot, will often relieve an achim tooth if placed around it.

When a child falls and hurts its head, don't let it go to sleep for an hour or two, and you may avoid brain troubles.

For tarache mix a very few drops of sweet oil mixed with a like quantity of chloroform and wear a plece of cotton moistened with it in the ear.

Spirits of turpentino is an excellent inhalation in "Jean Kineaid's" later articles in the Boston and

Pittsburgh and St. Louis publications deepened the interest, and when, a year later, the discussion of a national flower flagged, the art-publishers, L. Prang & Co., revived it by instituting a floral campaign, which is not yet ended. For a trifling tax of a quarter, they send a booklet containing fine lithographs of the leading candidates—the trailing arbutus, the golden-rod, etc.

The purchaser is entitled to a vote, and a great many ballots have been received from prominent people.

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes would choose the white water lily.

many ballots have been received from prominent people.

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes would choose the white water lily.

The beloved "Quaker Poet," John G. Whittier, chose first the Mayflower, but chaaged his vote in favor of the goiden-rod.

Prof. D. P. Penhallow of McGill University, advocates the golden-rod, also, giving his reasons (which have weight with many other voters) that this flower is indigenous to all parts of the country; that it is large enough for decorative purposes; that it is graceful and artistic; that it blooms longer than most flowers, and that its rugged and hardy nature makes it symbolical of the American honest and straightforward nature.

The trailing arbutus has many thousands of advocates. It was the first flower to greet the Plymouth Colony in the spring of 1621, after a long terrible winter of suffering and loss. It brought hope and cheer to their fainting hearts, just as it brings the 'promise of bright days and summer weather to their myriads of descendants. It is modest, sweet and beautiful. There are two objections to it, however; first, it has already been appropriated as the national emblem of our little neighbor—Nova Scotia; and second, the territory where it grows is comparatively limited.

The last objection does not hold with the golden-rod.

That grows everywhere.

The objection to that, however, is that farmers class it as a troublesome weed, although it is not like its more obnoxious brother, the daisy, which spreads itself through the best cultivated lands. The golden-rod contents itself for the most part with the byways and hedges, clustering about fence-corners and hedges.

Miss Edna Dean Procter strongly advocates the maize or Indian corn, and has written a beautiful poem in its favor. Its claims to notice are, that it is a native American. It played an important part in our colonial history, saving the early settlers from starvation and death; and it has been immortalized already by such American poets as Longfellow and Whittier, while its artistic capabilities are

WHAT WOMEN ARE DOING.

There are 6,000 post-mistresses in this country. Florence Nightingale is living, at the age of 73. \$10,000 to \$15,000 a year is the income which Mrs. Amelia E. Barr reaps from her novels.

Mrs. Annie Moores of Mt. Pleasant, Texas, is the first woman president of a national bank.

The Tennessee author, Miss Will Allen Dromgoole, was eight years clerk in the Senate of her State.

There are 4,415,000 women wage-earners in France. 8,000 of them are doing an independent business in Paris alone.

While there are 33,712 women in India receiving Chistian instruction, over II1,000,000 remain in deepest ignorance.

A girl of sixteen, Kate Levan, drives a daily in Berks County, Pa. She manages a four-team as skilfully as any man.

team as skilfully as any man.

Mrs. Candace Wheeler of New York is the most successful woman-designer in this country. The artist, Dora Wheeler Keith, is her daughter.

Professional embalming is a new occupation for women. Miss Kate Smith of Louisville, Ky., has just taken a diploma and is the first to enter the business. Miss Jessie A. Ackerman is the first woman to put on a diving suit and explore the wonders of the sea, She made the experiment between Australia and Singapore.

A grand-niece of Froebel who originated the Kindergarten system, will explain its principles at the Columbian Exhibition. Her name is Henriette Brayman Schrayder.

The national council of women, which has May Wright Sewall for president, consists of thirteen national organizations, made up of smaller women's clubs, and representing 1,000,000 women.

A Boston teacher is taking her first Europegn trip through the generosity of Mrs. J. Montgomery Sears, the artist wife of a millionaire, who took a \$500 prize in New York last winter for her painting.

Miss Agnes K. Murphy is a successful real estate

Miss Agnes K. Murphy is a successful real estate lealer in New York, although she is but twenty ears old. She has been proposed as the first woman nember of the New York Real Estate Exchange.

nember of the New York Real Estate Exchange.

The "Grace Darling of America." Miss Ida Lewis
of Newport, R. I., has declined many pressing offers
rom the World's Fair to exhibit her medals for savng lives. She will, however, exhibit her life-boat.

Miss Mary Heath of New York is the woman who
liscovered a fortune in making paper dolls for a livng. She began in a small way some years ago, and
low, with her mother and two sisters, has the largest
lanufactory owned by women in the country, doing
business of \$30,000 to \$40,000 a year.

The Anthropological Society of Washington

The Anthropological Society of Washington has made honorary members of Mrs. Tilly Stevenson, who is studying the ancient Zunis; Miss Alice Fletcher, who works among the North American Indians; Mrs. M. French Sheldon, the African explorer; and Mrs. Anita N. McGee, D.M., daughter of the astronomer.

Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays pain, cures wind colic and is the best.

WATCH FREE-If you want one, send stamp to the National III. Magazine, Washington, D. C. WATCH STORE, 1301 Washi

at sight, for \$10.00, and pays a 100% profit? If so, write us at once you will be too late, as we only appoint one agent in a count Article suitable for male or female. Address THE LIBERTY MFG. CO (Department 109), 517 & 519 West 45th St., New York City.

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e e t e e t e e t e e e e e e e e e e e	An, how death. Anvil chorus. An, my words. A sailor's low words. A sailor's low. A love song. Annie Laurie. Andid Grey Kirk. Alee Gray. Beilere mg. Beilere mg. Beilere mg. Beilere mg. Bryan O'Lyon. Bobbin' around. Bonnie Doon. Bonnie Dundee. Billy bov.	Caller Herrin'. Captain Jinks. Captain Megan. Coal black Rose. Crooskeen lawn. Dearest Mae. Duncan Gray. Ding dong bell.	First love, Forget me not. Garibaldi hymn. Girls and Boys. Giles Scroggins. Gilderoy. Green sleeves. Gaffer Grey. Cumbo Chaff. Home so blest Hull's Victory. Highland Mary.	Jim along Josie. Jim crack corn. Johnny Sands. Jack Rallin. Juanita. Killarney. Kilty Tyrrell. Kathleen Aroon. Last night. Lord Lovel. Lullaby. Little flowers. Lubby Dine. Lubby Dine. Lubby Dine. Lucy Neal. Lanigan's ball. Lawoard watch.	My country, Miss Wrinkle, Maggie's secret, Aly queen, Aly queen, My deen, My Annie, O', Mary Morrison, Miniature, Mary Morrison, Miniature, Money musk, My sweetheart, Maid of Athens, Not married yet, Nell and L. Nancy Lee, None can tell, O maidens fair,	Over there. Oh, Mr. Coon. Oid Jee. Oid Fee Dee. Oid King Crow. Oh, Arabella. Foor old maids. Pady Jike. Pady Jike. Pady Jike. Pady O'Moore. Robin Adair. Reel o' bogie. Ruby. Save the boy. Speak to me. Shule Agrah. Sweet Annie.	TTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTT
	Bygone hours. Beware. Baby mine. Belle Brandon.	Do not mingle. Dream song Ever of thee.	I wish you well. In the starlight. I saw thee weep.	Love, love, love.	O fair dove.	Shabby genteel. See saw. Sweet home.	TTUW
	Beautiful bells.	Flying trapeze. e and 444 other entained in this	Jolly raftsmen.	Market chorps	Our flag is there.	Swiss boy,	W
	and others are co words and music. Comfort, can we	Only by buri	ner in half milli	book, every or	ing to obtain	his collection of	al

"—N. Y. World
The blue bird.
The parting.
The advice.
The fairing.
The fairing.
The fairing.
The Ingleside.
The resolve.
Tulochgorum.
Tis better so.
Thou art finine.
The ivy green.
The cup of tea.
The poachers.
The poachers.
The watchmant.
The watchmant.
The fisher.
The braken.
The rate.
The rate.
The rate.
We', wat, wat.
When I behold.
Ye merry birds.
Ye merry birds.
Tra-boom-ta-ra-

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CARDS FOR 1893. 50 SAMPLE STYLES AND LIST OF CARDS FOR 1893. BAYERSELD PUR CALLED GIND





Practical Electricity For Boys.

II.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT BY H. EDWARD SWIFT.

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N my last paper I gave you a full description and directions for making an electric bell, and I suppose by this time your busy brains and hands have been carrying out and improving the work I laid out for you. I think, boys,

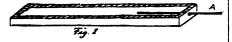
if we only work together in this new department of practical talks we shall find we have a much better idea of some of the things that are going on about us than we ever had before, and I hope you will get others interested and get their subscriptions for COMPORT so they may be benefited too. I would give more for a real live practical boy, than for all the men with theories that ever lived. The theory is well enough in its place, but remember, boys, theory don't get you bread and butter, but practical work does, and if theory and practice are harnessed to-gether with the right kind of a barness, the practical result will be well worth working for.

Well, I suppose your electric bell is about finished and you want the power that will make it ring, so as to put it to practical use.

Did you have any help about it?

No? I am glad you worked it out yourself, and nov I will tell you how you can make a battery that will ring your bell loud and clear. A Battery usually consists of two or more cups or cells, sometimes one cell is called a cell of battery. There are two distinct kinds of batteries called the open circuit, and the closed circuit. The open circuit battery is usually used for ringing electric bells, and the telephone service; the closed circuit for telegraph work. The cell I am about to describe is a modification of the old Leclanche battery. It is the simplest to make, as well as the most effective in its working, and requires the least care. It is called an open circuit battery because the circuit must be kept open all the time, with the exception of the short time it is in actual use, when the bell is used. If the circuit is kept closed for any length of time, it soon polarizes, and renders the cell worthless. Polarizing means to destroy the effective working of the carbon and the solution. This battery is best adapted for use with electric bells and is most generally used.

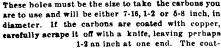
In the first place you want one or more ordinary fruit jars, according to the number of cells you intend to make. You all know where to get those; ask mother, she can furnish them. These will make excellent cells. We shall make the elements, or poles of the battery of carbon and zinc. If your nearest town or city has the electric arc lights you can easily get the carbons necessary by picking up the longer pieces that the trimmer throws away when on his daily rounds. They should be as near 6 inches in length as possible. If not procured in this way send to any electric light station and get half a dozen good carbons, and break them exactly in the middle if they are the long size; if the short size, they will be about right. They will cost about two cents each and should be free from a copper coating. The zincs you can make yourself. Gather up all the scrap sheet zinc you can find and melt it up, and then pour into a square mould made like a long slim box withcover, of wood. The mould should be about 6 cover and 3-8 inch square, with a small hole in one end in which to insert a piece of No. 18 copper wire, before pouring the zinc. The wire should be about 10 inches long and should be placed in the mould as in Fig. 1, at A, then when the zinc is poured



the wire will be moulded into the zinc firmly. Make as many as you intend to have cells in your battery.
The covers for the cells should be made of soft pine wood 1-2 inch thick, and of a diameter to fit your jars; taper slightly as in Fig. 2, and then bore a 3-8 inch hole in the center for the zinc,

cutting it out to fit your square rods just made. Around this center hole and as far away as you can from the center, bore four others as in Fig. 3.

These holes must be the size to take the carbons you





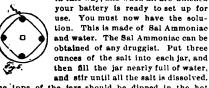
ing of copper remaining will make a better connection for the wire that will join the carbons together. Place the four carbons in

the holes made for them in the cover so that the metal covered end if there is any will project from the top about 1-2 an inch, as in Fig. 4. Then with a

piece of bare copper wire make a solid hitch around one of the carbons and then carry the wire to the next carbon, and take a double hitch, and so on until the four carconnected Get two or three paraffine candles at



the grocers and melt them up in a small tin pan then dip the cover and the short ends into the melted wax, and see that they get well coated. Keep the paraffine hot and let the cover stand in it until it is well saturated. Treat each cover and set of carbons in this way, and when all are finished



The tops of the jars should be dipped in the hot paraffine to prevent the solution from crawling over and going to waste. Be very careful not to spill the solution over the outside of the jar, as it has a great tendency to want to get out, and if the jar is wet it will soon find its way over the edge. Place the covers with the carbons in the jars and insert the zinc in the center, and see that the zinc does not touch the carbons in the jar, for that would use your battery up in a short time, and destroy its vitality.

Your battery is now ready for work. We now have

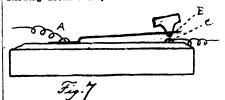
the bell and the battery and to use them you need a circuit closer. A piece of the brass the same thickness as you used for the bell spring will answer the purpose Cut or file out a piece two inches long and 1-2 an inch wide and make a hole in one end, and two holes in the other, each 1-8 inch in diameter as in Fig. 6. A block of

cherry or black walnut 1-2 of an inch thick, 2 1-2 inches long and one inch wide, finished smoothly and shellaced or varnished will



make the back piece. Now make a small round button about 5-8 of an inch in diameter, shaped like Fig. 61-2, of black walnut or cherry, and fasten it to the spring at A, Fig. 6, with a round headscrew,

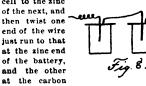
small size. Assemble your parts as in Fig. 7, putting another round head screw at the 6.5 point C, Fig. 7, directly under the screw B, so when the knob is pressed the two screws will strike together. Fasten the spring to the base with two screws at A, and bend the spring as shown in the cut. Now you are ready to put your apparatus to practical use. Order of the hardware dealer sufficient wire to run the distance you desire, allowing about twenty-five feet for extra length

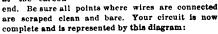


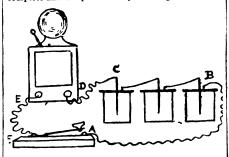
This wire should be what is called "Number 18 Annunciator wire," and will run about 180 ft. to a pound, so you can easily figure out what you will You will also want about 3 ounces of double

pointed tacks. Now you are ready for work.

In the first place decide where you will put the bell, where you wish to call from, and the place for your battery. Select these positions so as to save vourself all the labor you can, and also for the sake of hiding the wire as much as possible. Make two holes through the back of your bell for screws to fasten it to the wall with, and place it in the position you wish with the gong uppermost, and fasten securely. At the point selected for the push button or circuit closer, fasten the one you have made securely with two round head screws. In the cellar or in some closet on a high shelf place the battery. taking care to have it as near as possible to your circuit to save labor and wire. Starting at the circuit closer, run one wire along the wall or moulding over the mopboard, around the room and through the partitions to the bell, and cut the wire, leaving about 10 or 12 inches to spare. Fasten securely with the double pointed tacks, at convenient distances apart. Then start at the same place again and run a wire to your battery in the same manner, and also run a wire from the bell to the battery. The first wire is called the call or bell wire, the second is the battery wire. and the last is the return wire. Scrape off the insulation or cover, for about 3-4 of an inch at each end of your wires and coil the extra length of the ends on a lead pencil to make it look finished. At the circuit closer, put one end under the screw C. Fig. 7, and the other end under one of the screws at A. At the bell put one end under each of the two terminal screws as explained in our first paper. Place your battery in position, say three cells, and with short pieces of wire, 5 inches will be enough connect them as shown in Fig. 8, from carbon of one cell to the zinc







The wire starting at A, runs to the carbon end of the battery at B, through three cells and out at the zinc end at C, to one terminal of the bell D, through the bell as explained in our last paper, coming out at E, and along the bell wire to F, where the circuit is open until it is closed by your finger to ring the bell. We hope you will find no difficulty in this and will soon have your front door bell rung by electricity, rake you in the morning.

In the next paper I will tell you how to make and use a telegraph lustrument, and connect with your friend or neighbor's so that you will be able to talk back and forth. Get all the boys you can into your club of subscribers for COMFORT, as I shall tell you some strange things soon—things that will be worth money to any boy, so don't fail to take advantage of the golden opportunity the publishers of the best home paper in the world have opened up for you.

FACTS FOR FARMERS. Sow onion seed an inch deep.

Peanuts are planted and cultivated like beans. The Louisiana surgar crop last year reached 189,500

Wood ashes, bleached or unbleached make a good compost. Good barn-yard manure is the best fertilizer for small fruits.

Give horses a few pounds of hay before feeding them oats.

Black leghorns are the best laying hens through the winter.

Wheat makes excellent fodder for fattening hogs, or for laying hens. A colt should be halter-broken as soon as it can trot by its mother's side.

Bees should be kept in a sheltered place and pro-tected from chilling winds.

Wash hen-houses thoroughly with a weak solution of carbolic acid to rid them of lice.

Small Canada peas, sown broad-cast, are profitable as fodder for milch cows and hogs.

A well-kept heifer of good size and well-developed, may come in when she is two years old.

Cows that are petted and kindly treated from calf-hood up, are most orderly and gentle. Give fowls water in a rusty tin pan. The iron en-riches their blood and makes them lay.

Plant grape-vines around hen-houses. They will flourish there, and furnish shade for the hens.

Cucumbers and cantelopes are most successfully raised in barrels, if kept well supplied with water. Give work horses careful grooming and the best of eed. They will more than repay your kindness.

Spraying as a protection against insects has be-come absolutely necessary in all orchards and gar-

Ring-worm on cattle may be cured by washing once a day with a five per cent solution of carbolic acid, until healed.

Strained Bordeaux mixture with one ounce of Paris green in every twenty-two gallons, is the best insecticide.

Muck should be used as an absorbent in barn-yards, stables, pigsties and hen-houses, after which it makes an excellent fertilizer.

makes an excellent fertilizer.

Ornamental gourds make pretty summer climbers around the house and barn. They give luxurious foliage and curious shaped fruit.

The production of bect-sagar is on the increase. The total amount produced last year being 27,000,000 pounds, more than twice as much as in 1891.

Four requisites are necessary to the raising of good corn—proper preparation of the soil, good seed, uniform distribution and thorough cultivation.

Dry or air-slacked lime sprinkled thickly over currant and gooseberry bushes when wet will drive away worms, as well as hellebore, and is not poisonous.

A red sunset tinged with purple, or a gray sunrise, means fair weather; a yellow, or coppery sunset, a red sunrise, or a rainbow in the morning heralds rain.

SOLUTIONS TO APRIL MYSTERIES

	"It never rains, but it pours." "The truth shall make you free."		
No. 408.			
No. 40 ⁹ .	AUSTRALIA UNCIATIM SCANNED TINNER RANES ATER LID IM A	No. 411.	TAHALEB ALABAMA HAGAMAN ABATIN G LAMINAL EMINATE BANGLES
No. 412.	CARABIS	No 413.	Brandy-win

No 413. Brandy-wine.
No. 414. Chain-gang.
No. 415. CESSION
RANTERS
POSTAGE
SLATERS
ALAMORT
PLACERS
MASTERY ADAMANT RANENTA ANENDER BANDAGE INTEGER

Solvers to April Mysteries.

Completes:—Essay, Delian, 9 each; Poplar, W. E. Wiatt, 8; Eglantine, N. Igma, S. Hara, Remardo, Calo, Tyro 7; Sphinx, Waldemar, Mrs. G.P. C., 6; Mystagogue, 51-2; Zeni, Chauce, Ypsie, Ainslie A. Ray, 5; Aspiro, 4; Castranova, 3; Roy, 2. Prize-winners:—1. Essay. 2. Delian. 3. Poplar. Specials:—1. Remardo. 2. Castranova. Accepted contributions:—Waldemar, three charades.

RESULT OF THE PRIZE WORD HUNT

RESULT OF THE PRIZE WORD HUNT.

One hundred lists of words in the competition on the name "Columbus" were received. In two of these lists most of the rules of the contest had been violated, and consequently they were thrown out. The largest list of correct words received contained forty-seven words, while two lists contained only two correct words each. The international Dictionary was the authority, but many recoursed to other references. The complete list of words to be made from the word "Columbus," complying with the conditions of the contest, is found to be forty-seven, as follows: bo, bolus, bom, bos, boul, bum; clomb, clum, cob, col, comb, cub, culm; l, lo, lob, locus, los, lum; m, mo, mob, nucous, mucus, mus; O, oculus, os, osculum, oul; scum, slub, slum, so, sob, soc, sol, soul, sub, sum, sumbul; ulmus, umbo, us.

Lack of space forbids mentioning other than the prize-winners, which are as follows:

1. Veritas, Mt. Sterling, Ills., 47. 2. Lancolot Locust, Allegheny, Ps., 47. 3. Castranovs, New Chester, Pa., 46. 4. Sphinx, Allston, Mass., 46. Jenn, Plainfield, Mass., 46. 6. Elizabeth Marabout, Saginsw, Mich., 42.

The prize for the best appearing list, not including the above, is awarded to l. Blanche Delany, Churchville, Pa.

Oldcastle wishes to thank all who took part in the

ville, Pa.

Oldcastle wishes to thank all who took part in the contest and helped to make it the success that it was.

I Cure Dyspepsia, Constipation

and Chronic Nervous discases. Dr. Shoop's Restorative, the great Nerve Tonic, by a newly discovered principle, also cures stomach, liver and kidney discases, through the nerves that govern these organs. Book and samples free for 2 ct. stamp.

DR. Shoop, Box A, Racine, Wis.

Dimples

How

flesh worms, tan, powder and tatto marks eradicated. 20 years' practical experience summed up in Are Made, 150 page book on skin, scalp, nervous and blood diseases, their treatment

WRINKLES removed,

scars, birthmarks, moles,

warts, freckles, pimples,

diseases, their treatment diseases, their treatment and cure. Send 10c. for this book, sealed, and a trial size cake of WOODBURY'S FACIAL SOAP for the skin, sealp and complexion, or get it at your druggist's, 3 regular size cakes for \$1. A modern luxury for shaving, Woodbury's Antiseptic Shaving Sticks, 25c.; Barber's Bars, 15c., 2 for 25c. All correspondence on skin blemishes free and private. John H. Woodbury, Dermatologist, 125 West 42d st., N. Y. city.

CONSUMPTION SURELY CURED.

To the Editor-Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy free to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their express and post office address T. A. Slocum, M.C., 183 Pearl St., New York.

Sample Book of NEW CARDS 500 crop Picture, Verse, &c., 1 Serse Albam GLEN CAND Co., NORTH HAVEN, CONT.

TEACH BY MAIL CRAYON PORTRAIT PAINTING.

1 guarantee to teach any one who can read and write to paint a Life Size Crayon Portrait in 4 lessons by a new method. Send 50e in silver, postal note or money order for first lesson or send stamp for particulars. Address H. A. GRIPP, German Artist, Tyrone, Pa.

AGENTS are making from \$5 to \$10 a day selling the Patent DISINFECTANT
HOLDER, the
disinfectant and deoderizer known,
commissions. Exclusive territory.
Columbus Deoderizing Co., Columbus, Ohio.

Cheering Words From All Over the Union.

Camp Douglas, Wis., Feb. 18, 1893. I have used OXIEN and it has done me lots of good, so I send for another large lot.

Raton, New Mexico, Feb. 18, 1893. Gentlemen:-I herewith send \$25 for more OXIEN. The last lot was sold in a few days. People are finding out what a wonderful remedy it is. It has cured my son of long standing Asthma, and he has gained 25 lbs. in three months, so I feel sure that I can dispose of a very large quantity, the coming year.

MRS. R. P. LETTON.

Berger, Mo., Feb. 18, 1893. Gentlemen:-

I think OXIEN works especially well with those who are suffering from nervousness in their declining years. It seems to build one right up and infuses new life, so I send for another lot.

HENRY WALKER.

Beaumont, Texas, Feb. 8, 1883. I send \$5 for more OXIEN. It is getting to be very popular. One lady who has used it for Catarrh, says it is superior to anything she has ever tried. A single tablet relieves her. J. T. KLINE.

Racine, lowa, Feb. 19, 1893. Gentlemen:-OXIEN has done myself and husband so much good that I wish to act as agent, and I know I can sell a lot of it here. MRS. C. J. MENDICLOTT.

Corry, Pa,, Feb. 19, 1893. Gentlemen:-OXIEN has done wonders not only for myself, but also for my aged mother, as we have lived here for 30 years, the people all know her and they are surprised at the wonderful effects derived from the use of your wonderful discovery. I send for a large lot as they are already calling for it. ETTA DUNN.

La Mesa, Cal., Feb. 15, 1893. Gentlemen:-OXIEN is helping me wonderfully. I wish for another lot. Mrs. ROCENA YOUNGS. Postmaster.

South Lincoln, Me., Feb. 17, 1893. Gentlemen:-I sold the last lot of FOOD in two days. It is going like hot-cakes here since the man who has been lame for years has, since taking OXIEN, been walking around telling everybody of his wonderful cure. I only send \$12 this time, but intend to send for a large lot soon. It is working wonders in all cases.

ELSIE D. CURTIS. Macon, Mo., Feb. 20, 1893. Gentlemen:-I might have been called a total wreck before using OXIEN, for I was not only crippled with Rheumatism and Spinal disease, but greatly troubled with Catarrh and other complaints. I was sick in bed for weeks before taking OXIEN, but in three days it got me on my feet, and am now able to walk and work.

OXIEN is selling very fast here, and people are simply dumbfounded from the good effects they see

WM. LUCAS. manifested in my case. Mission City, B. C., Feb. 16, 1893. Gentlemen:-

I wish to thank you for the good OXIEN has accomplished in my wife's case. She had been suffering with nervousness for years. For weeks she had not slept. The doctors had given her up and said she could not live, and the slightest noise would put her in agony. Since taking OXIEN, however, she has become well and strong. People here say it is the greatest miracle that has ever happened. Many of our neighbors have been greatly benefitted from its use also. I herewith send for another lot.

JOHN FENNEFF.

Gentlemen: Muskegan Heights, Mich., Feb. 17, '93. It is a pleasure as well as a surprise for the people here to look at me and exclaim how fast I am gaining. Certainly your food is all you claim it to be and more, for I believe it has saved my life, having tried nearly everything without benefit. I can now eat, sleep, walk and talk, where it was impossible for me to do so a short time ago. Many who have been taking patent medicines in this section, say it did them no more good than so much water, while OXIEN has given them life and strength. I have sold OXIEN as far as twenty miles around here, and they all speak in high terms of it. Please send this lot at MRS, CHAS. CUSHMAN. once.

Winston, N. C., March 1, 1893. Gentlemen :-My daughter has used OXIEN with such beneficial results, that I wish to act as agent, and do all I can

to introduce your wonderful FOOD for the nerves. There is certainly nothing that will act more quickly on the nerves than OXIEN. MRS. JAMES MILLER. Achilles, Va., Nov. 28, 1892. Gentlemen:

Your OXIEN and plasters have done a power of good for my wife. They are better than all the medicine we have ever used. People notice the great improvement in her health and looks, and all praise As others wish to try it. I herewith send for another lot. JOHN W. THOMAS.

A WONDERFUL SUN-STROKE CURE.

Mr. A. H. Meeks when lately ordering an assorted lot, said: "Your OXIEN acts with remarkable effectiveness in cases of sun-stroke. A prominent minister who was at the head of one of the popular churches of the United States, having been overworked some four years ago, was stricken down with sunstroke. The best and most eminent physicians in this country failed to benefit him. He was taken to Philadelphia for treatment, and not allowed to see any of his friends. He was finally induced to try OXIEN, and is now rapidly improving and is very happy to have found a remedy that will bring him back to life and strength again."

The Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine, will send free samples of OXIEN, the Wonderful Food for the Nerves, to any one sending their address during the next 30 days.

RIGHT AWAY Reliable men in section of American section nd introduce our goods, steady wife aty. **275 A MONTH:** SALARY J.H.SCHAAF & CO., CINCINNATI,O-





HY do you never give any fashions for elder-ly women?" asks a sweet, white-haired lady, who will never grow old herself in the ordinary sense of the words.

the words.
And so, this month, we will give some designs for the use of elder ly women. The days when all women of

gone by; and there is as much chance for individuality in America as there is among the children and young girls.

It is always our aim to give practical and nesful hints on Dress Fashions, such as combine common sense with comfort and usefulness. It is well-known that manufacturers and trades-people get up many extravagant styles in women's dress, simply to sell large quantities of their goods. But this is not real style, or at any rate not common sense. Again, so-called "style" and "fashion" are not always identical with the fact of being really well-dressed. A woman may make herself an exact imitation of the latest European fashion-plate, and yet be nothing more or less than ridiculous. A well-dressed woman combines practical common sense with usefulness, a reasonable degree of economy, a regard for comfort and a sense of the artistic and beautiful.

And these conditions are what Comfort always endeavors to combine in its hints on Dress.

There is nothing prettier for the woman of

fled fashions of younger people. Cut your skirts so as to flare a little at the front, more on the sides and considerably behind at the bottom. Stiff and heavy trimmings at the knee are inartistic because they break the they break the figure into unbecoming lines.
The latest sleeves from



The latest sleeves from DRESS FOR ELDERLY LADY. sleeves from Paris are noticeably smaller at the top than those of the early summer; and there are hints of their being still more reduced in the fall. A dressy black silk for a middle-aged woman has a flounce of eight-inch lace at the bottom of the skirt, headed by a narrow fold of the silk. The plain round waist is trimmed with a bertha of the same lace, which is also used as a deep cuff. Black challies with colored figures also make up attractively after this fashion. Bonnets for elderly ladies are rather small, but as many of them are edged with a plaited frill of lace, a large effect is obtained. Black lace bonnets, with the frames outlined in jet, and a jet wing or aigrette, nestled among the lace bows at the front are quiet and elegant looking. Wide lace ties add the finishing touch. Ribbon ties should not be used unless ribbon is also employed on the body of the bonnet. When ribbon is used, however, it should be of the widths known as numbers 16 or 20, as narrow ribbon garnitures have "gone out."

Ribbons are very popular as dress trimmings,

the yoke, which may be trimmed more or less frill of lace, a large effect is obtained. Black lace bonnets, with the frames outlined in jet, and a jet wing or aigrette, nestled among the lace bows at the front are quiet and elegant looking. Wide lace ties add the finishing touch. Ribbon ties should not be used unless ribbon is also employed on the body of the bonnet. When ribbon is used, however, it should be of the widths known as numbers 16 or 20, as many yards often being used on a single gown. White satin ribbon belts with long loops and ends, tied at the left-front, are the most popular for use with white or light cotton dresses. White dotted muslin is again in favor for surmer gowns. Nothing can be cooler or daintier for a hot July day than a dotted muslin made up like our illustration. Just a word right here to the pale or sallow maiden. The cream colored muslins are much more universally becoming than the dead whites. The latter bring

out all the yellows and grays in a poor complexion, while the cream tints soften and conceal them. In choosing your summer muslins, study your own complexion.

Dotted muslins come at prices varying from twenty to seventy-five cents a yard. They wash and "do up" perfectly and if ironed on the wrong side will keep their new look as long as there is anything left of them. The dotted muslin gown given is made with a full ungored skirt, gathered slightly in front, and very full at the back. The waist is made full over a tight lining, and has a straight collar. Wide bretelles either of the dotted or a plain muslin are added to the front, and wide point de Gene lace is fulled to the edge, passing across the back of the collar. The sleeves have a puffed top and the belt is of number 9 white satin ribbon, tied in long loops and ends at the front. Plain white muslins may be made in the same way; while dainty colored organdies made over tinted linings after this pattern are universally becoming and appropriate.

white duck and linen suits, made with plain skirts and short Eton jackets, similar to the one given last month in Comfort's World's Fair Dress, are a novelty of the season. And if any reader has an old-fashion of the present that pattern and be in the height of the present fashion.

fashion.

At the present popular prices of summer goods, no one need to go without a pretty and cool dress for hot days. The wool challies come at from forty to fifty cents a yard. The cotton and wool on es, which come in just as pretty de-

to fifty cents a yard. The cotton and wool on e s, which c o me in just as pretty designs and will bear washing, cost from, seventeen to twenty-five cents; and the cotton ones range in price from four to twelve cents per yard. Fine organdies run from twenty-five to seventy-five cents a yard, figured lawns vary from five to fifty cents; and there is a multitude of ginghams, chamberys, and prints at low prices. Almost any large city dry-goods house will send out samples on application; and for a few cents, or a few dollars, the country reader may be as daintily clad as her city boarder. There are many ways to freshen up last summer's gowns. A new ribbon belt, and a deep lace bertha will do much to make an old frock seem new. There are many kinds of lace berthas in the market, and it is well to have one on hand to wear with different gowns for dress occasions. The one given has a fitted foundation of fine white muslin. Over this, wide lace is secured smoothly and fastened tightly at the edges. A narrow, round collar of muslin is also covered with lace. The bertha, which fastens on the left shoulder, is edged with a full deep frill of the lace. It may be made of either white, ecru or black lace, and is always dressy. Some one has inquired for the most fashionable way to do up the hair. Elderly ladies usually adopt some one style that is becoming to them, and then stick to that style regardless of changes in fashion. And, in fact, all styles are fashionable for them; either high or low coiffures, French twists, puffs, pompadours or crimped fronts, according as they are most becoming, being regarded as the proper thing.

For young ladies, however, the present style is the round knot placed just below the back of the head, into which the "scolding locks" are carefully gathered. The front hair is worn in a wavy or fluffy bang, but well off the face. The low bang, and especially the straight one, are things of the past. It is the fashion now, for every girl and every woman to show her forehead. It may be softened by a w



baby's flannel petticoat then anything else. The old-fashioned sleeved apron, however, is still worn, and nothing better has ever been devised for keeping little girls clean andwholesome.

Summer cloaks for little girls have taken the form of short jackets cut like reefers, only with the revers shorter and longer. The prettiest are made of ladies cloth in bright colors, and have no trimming at all, or, at most, nothing more than one or two rows of narrow braid. Faney gimps are not used at all for the purpose. Children's hats are large and narrower behind than in front. Many of them incline to the poke in shape. The "flat" is still popular and generally becoming. It is generally trimmed with a wreath of fine flowers, daisies perhaps. Always remember that the plainer a child is dressed the better. Jewelry is out of place on children. No matter how much money the parents may have, they only show evidence of vulgarity by putting showy lewelry on children. The really refined and cultivated rich people never put showy clothing on their children at all. They wear the best and finest of material, beautifully made and fitted; but they are never allowed to look like a milliner's French doll.

By the way, have you ever been in a great city? And have your ever noticed that out of

are never allowed to look like a milliner's French doll.

By the way, have you ever been in a great city? And have your ever noticed that out of every ten women you meet eight are atrociously dressed? They may be gotten up in "great style," and think they look like the Paris fashion-plates; but they will have on colors that "swear at each other;" and will plainly show that they have not considered the question of becomingness, all of which goes to show that women should learn to combine common sense and general usefulness with fashion and artistic beauty.

Veils are worn very generally, in spite of the heat of summer; this being one of the ways by which women emphasize the fact that they would rather follow blindly what they conceive to be the fashion than to be sensible. Veils are larger and looser than for many years. They cover the entire face and are drawn up in folds at the sides and back and pinned to the hat.

White petticoats are again

hat.
White petticoats are again in favor, the fancy silk ones of last summer, having proved themselves both expensive and unfit for hard usage.

pensive and unnt for naruusage.

Parasols come in many fancy styles but the plain silk ones, either black or colored, are much the most advisable. Lace ones are not fashionable now, and the much affected chiffon and crepe ones are too expensive and too easily ruined to be commended to sensible women.

and too easily ruined to be commended to sensible women.

Camel's hair in plain colors with over-shot dots of another shade is very much worn for street suits. When made up judiciously with silk of the contrasting tint, they are exceedingly novel.

Blouses are worn more than ever, and are made of all sorts of thin material, from printed cottons up to the most delicate silks. Plaided silks of the brightest colors are quite as popular as last season, when made up into these waists.

Avoid pronounced and conspicuous shades for street wear if you would be well-dressed. Crushed strawberry and heliotrope are entirely out of place on the public highway, besides being exceedingly trying to ordinary skins. Bright colored gowns for the house are always in good form.

Black and white is a popular combination for the street, and if in fine checks or stripes is in good taste. Leather bindings are being introduced in place of the velveteen ones which have lately taken the place of skirt bindings. It is probable that they will come into general use.

Finally, every reader is urged again to mingle

use. Finally, every reader is urged again to mingle a plentiful allowance of common sense with her fashions. Before deciding on either material or pattern for a garment ask yourself these questions: "Will it wear well? Will it be becoming? Is it a fashion that will soon be out of style? Will this pattern allow of the garment being made over another season? Is it the best suited to my means and general style?"

THINGS WOMEN SHOULD KNOW.

A heavy portiere makes a small door seem smaller. Mustard plasters mixed with sweet oil will not blister.

Never put kerosene oil near eatables; they absorb the odor. Wash oil-cloth in clear water; soapsuds removed

A weak solution of oxalic acid will remove ink and rust spots.

Put a tar-line around your sugar-bucket, and ants will never touch it.

Fruit should always be thoroughly washed before it is put upon the table.

Keer a small scrubbing brush over the kitchen sink for cleaning vegetables.

Turn down lamp wicks after trimming to prevent the oil from running over.

Add a few drops of lemon juice to boiling rice to make it clear and white.

Peppermints eaten after dinner are said to promote digestion; so does popoorn.

Cheese that is so hard that you ennnot press it on the rind is either sour or too sait.

Do not put left-overs away on tin plates, as there is danger of poison from the tin.

Leave your potatoes in cold water an hour before cooking and they will be mealy and white.

Mashed cranberries in a poultice-bag, applied to the affected part, will, it is said, cure erysipelas.

Set dry biscuits in a covered tin pan and place in a warm oven for ten minutes and they will be as fresh

as new.

Don't let the sun's rays fall direttly upon a mirror.

They cause cloudy spots to appear which cannot be

They cause cloudy spots to appear which cannot be removed.

Little bags of unground black pepper, pinned on to hangings and among the clothes in wardrobes, will keep away moths.

Dissolve thoroughly a cup of rock salt in your bath and you will be as invigorated, after using it, as if you had taken a plunge into the sea.

Do not put furniture upholstered with large designs into a small room, or cover the wall with large figured paper. They make it seem smaller.

When grease is spilled on the floor, pour cold water over it. This hardens the grease quickly, when it can be scraped up before it sinks into the floor.

The judicious use of sound fruit is considered an excellent preventive of cholera. The acid in lemons and oranges is said to be deadly to the cholera bacilli. Do not put away articles of food in paper. The moisture in the food will absorb acids and chemicals from the paper, which is a compound of rags, glue and lime.

Do not wash windows with soap suds. A little al-





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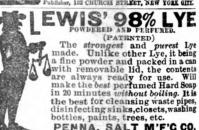
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AS WE SEE OURSELVES.

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NATURE anticipated the vanity of man and woman There never was a time when one could not see his reflection.

The streams were man's first looking glasses

There were no mirrors on Olympus, but Narcissus managed to see himself reflected in the water and died for love of his own image.

Perseus when he went on his terrible mission to secure the head of Medusa polished up his shield so that he could see the panorama of the scenery and avoid looking directly at anything for fear of encountering the dreadful eyes of the Gorgon.

The first mirror antidates history.

The earliest ones used were of polished metal.

The early Egyptians made them of polished copper.

Students of archæology constantly encounter them in Egypt on various inscriptions of the most ancient

The ancient Romans used silver for such purpose and the mirrors of that time were most elaborate and

Some old records speak of golden mirrors, but Mr. Beckman, who is an authority on such matters, decides that gold was only used for ornamental frames.

The early mirrors were small, either for hand use or for wearing on the girdle. The most exquisite workmanship was put into them.



history, constantly repeats itself. The hand mirror of the Roman beauty reappears today on the toilette table of the fashionable with stamped silver.

Fashion, like

In the ancient times this circular mirror was orna-mented with historical and m v t h ological wreaths and little cupids among them

are the favorite style.

Ordinarily the ancient mirrors had ornamented handles. Sometimes these handles were made like a edestal so that the glass could stand upright on the table.

Smaller mirrors, to serve as those for the pocket do to day, were shaped like boxes, the lids of which were richly engraved or wrought. These were worn at the girdle.

Exactly when glass came in is uncertain.

It is said that Praxiteles taught the use of glass for this purpose 328 B. C., but if he did the art was lost for centuries.

Pliny the elder, the historian, speaks of glass being ide in his time in Sidon, the famous Phænecian city where the lost art—the making of purple glassflourished at one time, and has baffled all the skill of future ages to reproduce it.

In the days of the great historian, who was born in the 23rd year of the Christian era, panels of polished stone were set in the walls of Roman houses. Many of these panels were of obsidian, a volcanic stone, containing a great amount of silica, and which was so dark in color that when polished it appeared to be black. This fashion was no doubt the first form of the wall looking-glass that we have it to-day.

Plautus records that in the time of the first Roman

Emperors mirrors were so common that maid servants carried them.

In 625 Pope Boniface sent a mirror to England to Queen Ethelberga of Northumbria, and there are evidences that the early Anglo-Saxons had mirrors for they appear on rude carvings in Scotland.

It was not until the 13th century that glass finally succeeded metal, and it was not until 1763 that the industry was introduced into England.

The famous Duke of Buckingham was setively interested in the first glass works which were established at Lambeth, by Sir Robert Mamsel, who brought to England Italian workmen to aid his venture.

One of the earliest mirrors made, a very rude affair, is now preserved in Holyrood Castle, Scotland, the castle where the ill-fated Mary Stuart lived.

In the sixteenth century they first besame articles of household furniture. Tin and lead were first used to back glass for mirrors, and after that silver

was used. Venice was the first to produce suc-

very costly. When the effects of the French Minister Colbert were sold, a mirror 46x26 nearly ROMAN MIRinches, brought 8,016 livres, \$1,500, while a Raphæl, sold at the same auction, brought only 3,000 livres, a

little more than a third as much. In 1691 Venetians introduced the art into France.

Mirrors are to-day backed with quick-silver. The method briefly described is something like this A sheet of tin foil is spread on a table which has a smooth stone top so arranged that by means of a lever it can be tilted slightly, at will.

This top is covered with quick-silver a quarter of an inch deep, the superior surface of which is liquid, which, by means of an edge to the table, is prevented from running off.

The glass is thoroughly cleansed and heated, and then siid horizontally along the table into the quicksilver, being pressed down so that no air is between its under surface and the liquid.

The glass being in position, the table is tilted and

the superficial quick-silver runs off. A weight is then pressed on the glass, and it takes weeks to dry.

As late as 1840 tin and lead were used to back mirrors. Drayton, an English chemist, first put the silvering process into practical operation, but his method was not successful, as the mirrors spotted easily. The Pettijeans process was patented in 1845 was successful.

Silver precipitate is still used some for som ensive mirrors and has many advantages. It is harmless to workman, can be completed in a few hours, and can be repaired.

It is rather sad to think that the making of mirrors by the usual process has always been, and is still, dangerous to the health of the workmen. This common article, so necessary to the vanity of man and woman, is provided at the expense of the well-being of our fellow creatures. It is true that every precaution is taken by manufacturers to-day to protect, workmen from the dangerous fumes of the quicksilver, but even modern skill cannot wholly do away with the hazards of the industry.

MY SUBSTITUTE.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HERBERT S. CUNNINGHAM

Copyrigh, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.



other hand he reached out and got another man by the hair; whose head he brought down with a terrific and resounding thump on the skull of his first prisoner.

While engaged in this amusement he did some lively kicking with his muscular legs. Reaching out with one foot, he stuck his long claws in the face of some one; and from the yell that followed, I thought Mike had surely pulled the fellow's nose out. Then he leaped from the bed and flew, first at one, then another; clawing, tearing, kicking, chewing, and striking, all at the same time.

I could hear him ripping their clothes off, and I think that some flesh came too, judging from the yells, curses, prayers and groans that came from the throats of the astonished intruders.

A terrible crashing of glass, a fearful yell, and a dull thud on the sidewalk below, told me that Mike had thrown one of them through the window.

After ten minutes of this work, the would-be dynchers began to think that I was too much for them; and with a common impulse they all rushed for the door and down the stairs to the street.

Mike followed them all the way and, by their cries. I think he must have done some effective work.

He soon came back and I crawled out from under the bed. Mike was not hurt in the least; but I afterwards found out that all the men were seriously injured; several had their ribs broken, one had an arm broken, the clothing of every man was ruined, and all were more or less damaged.

The following editorial appeared in the next number of the "Blizzard."

"A dastardly attempt was made on the life of the Editor last Thursday night. Some of the prominent citizens, not liking certain plain remarks in the last 'Blizzard,' sent an anonymous warning to the Editor last Thursday night. Some of the prominent citizens, not liking certain plain remarks in the last 'Blizzard,' sent an anonymous warning to the Editor As this had no effect, several of them entered his room with the intention of lynching him. But they were not aware that the had taken lessons of Yankee Sulliv

NOTES.

"Judge Jones fell through a window Thursday evening and sustained a fracture of the collar bone."
"Major Peters and Colonel Brown each had the misfortune to receive severe kicks in the ribs, Thursday night."
"Frank Smith fell down stairs and broke his arm Thursday night."
"Thursday was a prolific dev for confident."

Thursday night."

"Thursday was a prolific day for accidents. Besides the above, Colonel Johnson, Colonel Williams, Major Jenkins, Dr. Fraught, Capt. Wyman, and Bummer Bill Simpkins were badly damaged."

I lived in the town for several years after this, but no one ever attempted to injure me. They evidently thought that I was quite a prize fighter. But I should not have fared so well that night if it had not been for My Substitute.

WORLD'S FAIR ITEMS.

A palm tree 127 years old is in the California build-ing. It is fifty feet high, and was lifted by a derrick from its home, near San Diego, boxed about the roots, and brought East with great difficulty.

General Israel Putnam's gun, with which he killed the famons she-wolf 140 years ago, is at the Fair. It belongs to a family in Putnam, Conn. This is the first time it has left Connecticut since the redoubta-ble general carried it.

The Japanese fisheries exhibit is quite unique. They claim that the fish of Japan are harder to catch than ours, and that it is impossible to use American tackle there. They use very small hooks but very strong ones, and take great pains with their bait.

Alaska has a most complete exhibit. Among other things, is a war-cance forty years old, quaintly painted and with the marks of many arrow-heads on the sides. There will also be totempoles, trophies and tunks, old sleds, and the most remarkable collection of furs ever shown from any country.

The gold and silversmiths of London exhibit a

Shakespearean casket made of damascened iron, covered with an arabesque of 18 carat gold. The floral ornamentations are in Elizabethan style, and frame enamel paintings of various scenes from the great dramatist's plays. The whole is surmounted by Shakespeare's crest—a falcon holding a tilted spear.

by Shakespeare's creat—a latton holding a trigu-spear.

Edison's latest invention, so long kept from the public, is on exhibition in his department. It is the kinetograph, and is to the eye what the phonograph is to the ear, reproducing pictures, as that does sounds. With it, Mr. Edison claims, it is possible to produce all the movements and expressions of any public event or speaker, from a prize fight up to Gladstone speech in Parliament.

Gladstone speech in Parliament.

The Woman's Building is beautifully decorated inside in ivory white picked out with gold. On the panels are the names of famous women, both in ancient and modern times. Mrs. Potter Palmer, as president of the board of lady-managers, has her name in large gold letters at the north-end of the gallery, and that of Miss Lois Hayden, the architect of the building, is similarly inscribed at the opposite end of the room.

A gigantic model of the mammoth crystal cave of the Black Hills is under the great dome of the Horticultural building. It has taken 200,000 pounds of crystal to build it. It has seven rooms 30x40 feet, and several small grottoes and passages. In one corner is a miniature lake, and in some places water drips from the stalactites as naturally as in any cave. Some of the crystals are tinted, and the whole is lighted by electricity. This beautiful exhibit is free to every visitor.

to every visitor.

Tiffany & Co., the New York jewelers, have an exhibit worth \$2,000,000. In it is a large corsage ornament, representing a lattice of maidenhair ferns, in the construction of which there were used about three hundred diamonds and one hundred and twenty-five pearls. Another ornament, the design of which was suggested by a piece of rare old Spanish lace, is composed of 1,000 diamonds, 1,000 emeralds and a number of large yellow sapphires. The entire collection is one of the most beautiful ever shown in the world.

A Turkish bedstead is on exhibition which it is

one of the most beautiful ever shown in the world.

A Turkish bedstead is on exhibition which it is claimed cost \$450,000. It is more than half silver, and weighs about 5,000 lbs. The bed is of the old-fash-ioned high-post pattern, with a canopy worked out in massive silver filigree work, surmounted by a crown. The posts are round and perfectly plain, but the side-pieces are all carved in artistic floral design. It stands about five feet from the floor, and four steps, not unlike those used in the sleeping cars of to-day, assist the personage lucky enough to sleep in the silver bedstead.

Are You Hard of Hearing or Deaf? Call or send stamp for full particulars how to restore your hearing by one who was deaf for thirty years. John Garmore, Room 18, Ham-mond Bldg., Fourth and Vine, Cincinnati, O.

What Shall We Drink?

What Shall We Drink?

When the rays of old Sol are boiling down at a ninety degree rate, the air like the breath of a furnace and everything hot, dry and dusty, the natural desire of the average human is to drink. But, what to drink? there's the question.

A beverage to meet the requirements, must, first of all, be absolutely pure and non-alcoholic. It should possess a medicinal element to counteract the effects of the heat and keep the blood pure and the stomach healthful. In order to be palatable and refreshing, it should be sparkling and effervescent. Last but not least, it must be economical and within the reach of all. A beverage that fully meets all of the above requirements and one that is entitled to more than passing mention is Hires' Rootbeer, manufactured by the Chas. E. Hires Co., of Philadelphia, advertisement of which appears in this issue.

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Uncle Tom's Cabin, by Harriet Beecher Stowe, and The forlivents. F.M. Lupton, Publisher, 106 Reade St., New York

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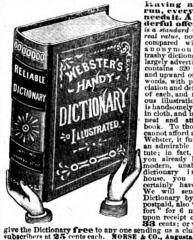
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sent free.

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\$100.00 IN CASH PRIZES.

To become a member of Comporer's Prize Puzzle Club, it will be necessary to be a regular, yearly, paid-up subscriber to Comporer; also to send in, at one time, not less than four new subscribers with 25 cents for each, to pay for one year's subscription to Comport. These four or more subscribers must be sent in one lot, and will be received any time before the competition closes.

It must be distinctly understood, however, that subscriptions sent in under this Prize Puzzle Club offer are not entitled to any of the other premiums offered by the publishers of Comport to getters-up of Clubs. Old and young, men, women, boys and girls, are cordially invited to join the club.

We shall publish in May, June, July and August, from six to ten prize puzzles in each issue. We shall award twenty-seven cash prizes, amounting in all to \$100, to those members of the club who send in, before September tenth, the largest number of correct answers to the puzzles published during the four months above named.

The answers to puzzles which appear in these four numbers of Comport, must be sent in one lot, and must reach us before September tenth. Parties may become members at any time, and by securing back numbers may take part in this prize competition; but, as we cannot agree to supply back numbers, and as Comport costs but 25 cents a year, it is for the advantage of all to become members of the Prize Puzzle Club at the earliest possible date.

Competitors must write plainly, on one side of the sheet only, numbering their answers, consecutively, in the order they appear in Comport; and aside from answers to puzzles, letters must contain nothing, whatever, but date, full name and full post-office address of the sender. All replies and lists of new subscribers sent under this offer must be sufficiently stamped, and addressed to EDITOR COMPORT'S PRIZE PUZZLE CLUB, AUGUSTA, MAINE. Remittances should be made by money order, postal note, registered letter, or may be sent in postage stamps at the sender's risk. The member sending in the

And the twenty sending in the twenty next highest number will receive 20 cash prizes of one dollar each

The award of prizes will be announced in the October issue of COMPORT. Should two parties send in the highest number of answers, the one having sent the largest number of subscribers to COMPORT, will be considered first in the awarding of prizes. This competition is open, positively, to members of this cub only; and no one may compete who has not fully complied with all the above named conditions.

E are right in the midst of glorious summer again, and I hope none of the Prize Puzzle Club are making the hot weather an excuse for laziness. I'm afraid I haven't much patience with lazy people. I believe in keeping occupied. A day is never too hot to introduce into it some work for hands or brains. The poet has rightly said:

"Eschew the idle life!
Flee, flee from doing naught!
There never was an idle brain
But bred an idle thought."

Take Comport out on the veranda, in the shady porch, or under the spreading branches of the trees where birds are singing, and the light flickers through rustling leaves down upon the soft, green grass; carry out atlas and dictionary; study over the puzzles awhile, and I'll answer for it you won't think half as much about the heat as you would if you were doing nothing.

that answers well the question asked.

The Geographical charades and puzzles are particularly useful, as they refresh one's memory in regard to places in our own, and in other countries. In the puzzle given this month look over the maps and find places, the names of which will make the best sense in the little story. Do not stop at the first one you find unless it is very good indeed, but look out and get the best answer possible.

The Pictorial Charades represent, as you

and get the best answer possible.

The Pictorial Charades represent, as you must see, some old and common proverb, by the means of simple illustrations, and ought to be easily guessed.

I hope this vacation month will bring a notable addition to our Club of both young and old. Do not hesitate to write to me if you wish for any further enlightenment.

GEOGRAPHICAL CHARADES

18.— GEOGRAPHICAL CHARADES.

1. My first is a water fowl; my second a wide expanse of water; my whole is a town in Massachusetts.

2. My first is a small nail; my second a place of crossing a stream; my whole is a town in Massachusetts.

3. My first is a kind of tree; my second a hurt; my third an article of food; my whole is a town in Massachusetts.

4. My first is a small animal; my second is scn.ething we all ought to acquire; my whole is a city on the Hudson river.

LETTER PUZZLE.

1. Which letters of the alphabet are the choicest for the vegetable garden?
2. Which letters indicate the most surprise?
3. Which letters do the cockney's avoid?
4. Which letters are peculiar to Chinamen?
5. Which letters measure the longest?
6. Which letters are the most disagreeable?
7. What two letters will give the name of a county in Massachusetts?

Supply the omitted letters in the above and find:
One of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.
A county in Ireland.
A town in Vermont.
A word meaning to avoid.
A sounty in North Carolina.
A lake in Florida.
A lake in Michigan.

CHARADE.

My first you'll find a faithful friend, If you can gain his love. My second, if you'd like to know, Look out for it above.

My whole, composed of these two words, If you would try to guess.
You'll surely have to search the sky—
And more I'll not confess.

NOTE.—In puzzle No. 10 of the June Comfort the illustration by accident was left out. We therefore give it in this number as below.

PUZZLE No. 10.

A familiar proverb of six words may be guessed from the following illustration.



shady porch, or under the spreading branches of the trees where birds are singing, and the light flickers through rustling leaves down upon the soft, green grass; carry out atlas and dictionary; study over the puzzles awhile, and I'll answer for it you won't think half as much about the heat as you would if you were doing nothing.

This puzzle contest, you know, began with our May number. Cut out the puzzles in the three numbers, paste them in a cheap scrapbook, and when the weather is too hot for games or dancing have a "Puzzle Party." Invite a few bright friends and see what a half dozen or a dozen heads put together can do. I am sure you would find it an entertaining way of passing a summer hour, and it would prove an interesting test as to which of your friends has the quickest wit.

I think there is nothing that needs much explanation this month. In the Letter puzzle you have simply to begin at the beginning of the alphabet and saying over the A's, the B's, the C's, and so on, stop when you find a letter that answers well the question asked.

The Geographical charades and puzzles are particularly useful, as they refresh one other countries. In month local and the countries of the alphabet and saying over the A's, the B's, the C's, and so on, stop when you find a letter that answers well the question asked.

The Geographical charades and puzzles are particularly useful, as they refresh one other countries. In month local and the countries is to have a size of the alphabet and saying over the A's, the B's, the C's, and so on, stop when you find a letter that answers well the question asked.



A FAMILIAR PROVERS OF THREE WORDS. PI.

Sometimes it happens that a printer has an accident after his type is set up which throws the words and sentences into confusion. This is called "pi." Imagine that such an accident has been pened to the two following stanzas by is called "pi." Imagine that such an accident has happened to the two following stanzas by one of our gifted poets, and set them right also tell the name of the poet.

"Nda huot, oto, sehowoer othu tra, Htat dearste isht eirfb lamsp, Sa neo yb eon hyt shoep traped, Eb letoersu nad mlac.

"O rafe ont ni a lowrd keli hits Nad huot hslat wokn re'e glno, Wkno who buslmie a hgint ti si Ot fusfre nad eb rostgn."

1, a small stream of water. 2, a shout of applause. 3, an old saying. 4, a follower. 5, a mineral. 6, to disturb or involve. 7, a kind of knife. 8, a Saxon name.

The initial and terminal letters spell an article of foreign manufacture used both for ornament and comfort.

ment and comfort.

Comfort's Puzzle Editor.

LADIES LACE PINS FREE.

We have some new style Gold-plate Bangle Pins coming in very unique patterns, comprising the Souvenir Spoon, Key and various new styles. We want every one to get our new Catalogue and Premium List of 500 new articles in Jewclery and Household goods, so if you address Morse & Co., Box 155, Augusta, Maine, and enclose 4c for mailing we will send one of these real gold-plated pins free postpaid, and also include a specimen copy of COMFORT, the only Magazine that has ever attained a circulation of over Eleven Hundred Thousand copies each issue.

POCKET BANKS.



HOLDS \$1.00

NICKELS

HOLDS \$1.00

The simplest, smallest and most practical Pocket Banks for the price yet made. One-third smaller than any other bank. Has no screws or bolts to catch in the pocket. Your money is as safe in this bank as any national bank and deposits cannot be withdrawn until the capital has been fully paid in. When bank is filled turn bottom piece from left to right. This bank has met with great favor and is the handsomest cheap pocket bank in the market. Made in three sizes, for Pennies, Nickels and Dimes. Either size only 15 cents each, postpaid. Given free as a premium for 2 yearly subscribers at 25 cts. each. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Indestructable Stuffed Toys, Free!



Fairs, ect., and agents only need to get samples to judge for them selves which they can handle the most of.

Single are all made material—genuins giving them a wavy can learn ticles together with three months trial subscription to the most of.

Single are all made material—genuins giving them a wavy can learn ticles for fifty cents. One dozen, one dollar, postpaid. They all come in bright Lithograph colors, heavy goods, and are a great success of the World's Fair year. A delight to youth, middle and old age. The only reason of the low price, is that people stuff them and sew up after receiving, thus they go by mail for low postage. Order at once if you want to either make money or amuse and instruct the young. Address

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

A FORTUNE IN POULTRY.



More money has been made and lost in Poultry than any other home industry. Thousands of dollars can be realized at home easily by the women and children if you start and act right. Our common sense Standard Poultry Book gives all the new valuable ideas about money making in Poultry farming; the enormous profit; how to build sensible but cheap houses, how to start and stock them. All about marketing eggs, chickens and poultry. The secrets of successful managers now given to the world. Our wonderful book treats of every known kind of poultry and fow, and their hands and the stock them. All about marketing eggs, chickens and poultry. The secrets of successful managers now given to the world. Our wonderful book treats of eggs, chickens and poultry and fow, and their hands and the successful managers now given to the world. Our wonderful book treats of eggs, chickens and poultry and fow an

KAZOO! The Great Musical Wonder, Creat Fun for the Boys.

With this wonderful Invention FAVORABLE NOTICES FROM THE PRESS.

piazza, if fully sustains the reputation of no its inventor."—" Boston Journal." Price of Kazoo, 12 cents; three for 30 sost-paid. One dozen, by express, \$1.

dirke. 180037

an bel

Given Free as a Premium for ? yearly subscriber a twenty-five cents each. COMFORT, Augusta Maine

DAVID KILLED GOLIAH

CATAPULT OR POCKET GUN So the idea is old but a perfect modern sling at this price has not been made before. This has great force and strength. Made of a solid piece of rubber, with cup to hold the projectile, Requires no powder, no eaps; is neatly finished, durable, and can be carried in the pocket, as it weighs only three ounces. Will shoot shot or bullets with accuracy and force, and with a little prakill birds on the wing or bring down a squi the highest tree. It is the best thing out for mists, as it will kill without spolling games no report. A boy can have more genuine ja day with a Catapult than with anything e The loop, strap, pocket and pulling tip are all in one solid piece of the best kind of rubber 15 cents for a three months subscription to and we send one free, postpaid. Boys ma selling them. One dozen sent for \$1.00. Ad COMFORT, Augusta

Fun For The Boys.

Sent Free to Everybody!

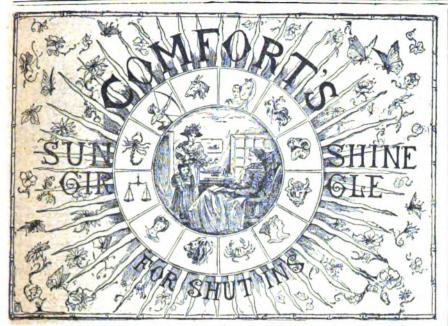


We have 17.30 strong, perfect, Oriental, hand-tied, colored Hammocks, which for the next sixty days we shall place on the Free List, upon the conditions specified below. This will enable every one who is willing to render us a little service, to secure one absolutely free. These Hammocks are over 0 feet long, every one is tested to carry 300 lb. dead weight, is supplied with strong, white metal rings at the ends, and a strong cord along the entire length of sides. No home, picnic, camping, or outing party is complete without one. To recline in one of these health-giving articles in some cool nook after the day's work is done, or on a Sunday afternoon, is to repose in the lap of luxury.

Now to every one who will get up a club of six subscribers for Comfort at 25 cents per year, each in advance, we will send one of these Hammocks Fit E E, we paying all express and mailing charges. By showing a copy of Comfort

to your neighbors, friends, and acquaintances, you can easily get up a club in one evening; for COMFORT, with its many improvements and new, original, copyrighted departments, now needs only to be seen to be appreciated. To those who do not care to go to the trouble of getting a club, we will send COM FORT for one year, together with one of these Hammocks all express and mailing charges paid by upon receipt of one dollar.

Address



Every Shut-In who will get up a club of five or more yearly subscribers for COMPORT at twenty-five cents apiece, may send us ten cents for each subscriber, and keep the other fifteen for herself.

The only condition given is that you must furnish satisfactory proof that you are a Shut-In. Get your physician and clergyman, or two other responsible persons, to sign a statement saying they have known you (and how long), that you are an invalid, unable to work, and that you properly belong to the Shut-In Circle.

to work, and that you properly belong to the Shut-in Circle.

No club will be received of less than five subscribers, and these must all be sent at one time, together with the amount necessary for the club.

Money may be sent by money-order, postal-note, check, draft, registered-letter, or in postage stamps. Never send money loose in a letter.

Try among your friends, neighbors and relatives. Your children at school or in factories, or your servant-girls among their friends can bring you names of new subscribers. Take it up seriously, as a matter of business, and you will succeed.

All correspondence for this department should be directed to Sunshine Circle, care of Comport, Augusta, Maine.

EAR FRIENDS:

Again the month comes around, and I settle down, surrounded by your letters, for a little talk with you. Windows are open, birds are filling the early morning tir with glad melody, and it seems sad to think that in such a beautiful world sickness and suffering must come, like clouds across the sun, o darken our lives. Yet what should we do without the clouds and the blessed raindrops which leave the earth more fresh and beautiful han before? Just so should all sorrow work n our lives and ennoble our character; and it surely will if we bear it in the right spirit.

There is often a beautiful work a person afflicted by illness can do in a home-a work that shall live and bear fruit in other lives that shall live and bear fruit in other lives after we are gone; and it is done by gentleness and patience in suffering; by a loving, grateful spirit that shows appreciation for every little attention received; by ignoring any causes for offence, and cultivating unselfishness. An invalid who lives in this spirit creates for himself or herself a perpetual summer, a sunshine in which all who come near will love to linger.

Dear members of the Sunshine Checke let our happily-chosen name be an inspiration to you daily, and strive earnestly to make a sunny corner where your friends may learn lessons of patience and faith. Mrs. Browning has beautifully said:

"So others shall
Take patience, labor, to their heart and hand from thy hand, and thy heart, and thy brave cheer.

cheer.
And God's grace fructify through thee to all.
The least flower with a brimming cup may

stand, And share its dewdrop with another near." Bent and bruised flowers though you may be, see that you spread your fragrance abroad, and "share your dewdrop with another." So shall

see that you spread your fragrance abroad, and "share your dewdrop with another." So shall you be blest.

I have many letters to give you and I shall be obliged to condense them more than I wish, also to leave over many for another month; but do not be discouraged, I shall get around to all in good time.

mrs. E. F. Carney, 205 Hanover St., Manchester, N. H., writes:
"I have been an invalid eleven years this coming June, and have been confined to bed nearly four years. My trouble is chronic rheumatism, and I can never regain the use of my limbs. I do not have any pleasure excepting what I get out of reading. A well person cannot realize how much pleasure it brings to one without friends to have letters, reading, or tokens of sympathy from the outside world. When I got a letter or package it would make me forget my pains and troubles the whole day. I would like to be remembered in any may the readers of Comforr feel like doing. I have religious books and papers enough but would be glad of good and interesting light reading or fiction."

Georgia H. Lyon, Fredonia, Kansas, writes:

good and interesting light reading or fiction."
GEORGIA H. LYON, Fredonia, Kansas, writes:
"I am neyer tired of reading your bright,
patient, and sympathetic letters. I am twentyfour years old, and have always been a cripple.
Though more fortunate than many others yet I
am sometimes very lonely and sad and long to
be able to do more in the Master's name.
"We sometimes wonder why our Lord doth
place us
Within a sphere so narrow, so obscure
That nothing we call work can find an entrance
Where's only room to suffer and endure.
Well, God loves patience—souls that dwell in
stillness,

Well, God loves patience—source
stillness,
Doing the little things, or resting quite,
May just as perfectly fulfil their mission,
Be just as useful in the Father's sight'
In this thought I try to find my consolation,
and fill my 'corners' the best I can. I would be
pleased to receive curios, relies, mineral specimens, or anything for my 'Curiosity Shop.'
Would like to receive orders for scrap pictures."

Would like to receive orders for scrap pictures." That is a very beautiful verse this sister has quoted. We are all apt, I think, to imagine that we could do so much more good and live so much better lives under other circumstances than our own, and we do not consider as seriously as we ought the question—are we doing all we can to make our lives beautiful now, just as we are? Are we cultivating a meek and lowly spirit? Are we pleasant to live with? Do we keep our lips from evil, from hasty, unpleasant words that do so much to mar the happiness of a family? Dear Shut-Ins, however ill you may be there is work enough for you to do in perfecting your own character,

and, believe me, there is no way you can work for the Master any better than that. MRS. O. M. PENN, Daniel P. O., Carroll Co., Md.,

MRS. O. M. PENN, Daniel P. O., Carroll Co., Md., writes:

"I am an invalid, and some kind friend has been sending me Comfort for two years. It always brings comfort within its useful, intelligent pages. Every succeeding number is brighter and more interesting. I find the most solace in the "Sunshing Circle." I have been a Shut-In for nearly twelve years; an intense sufferer, and most of the time confined to my bed. I have two children, a boy of nearly twelve, who has never known his mother to be well, and a delicate baby boy, not yet one year. We live in a lonely country place and my husband's two sisters, maiden ladies, live with us. I would thank you kindly if you would ask Comfort readers to remember me on my birth-day, July 27th, with letters, quilt pieces of any kind, or any little mementoes. I am trying to get up a club for Comfort. I have two subscribers, and hope to get more."

MRS. Margaret Linville, Bethesda, Bracken

MRS. MARGARET LINVILLE, Bethesda, Bracken Co., Ky., writes:
"I am an invalid, and would like to join the SUNSHINE CIRCLE. Will some of the dear Shut-Ins write and tell me about it, and what I must do to belong? I take Comport, and enjoy reading it. Please write at once."

Every subscriber to Comport who is a Shut-

Every subscriber to Comfort who is a Shut-In belongs to Comfort's Sunshine Circle. You belong to us already by reason of your suffer-ing, and we welcome you into our midst, and trust that your pleasure in joining our circle will increase every month.

CHARLES T. ZEPP, Melrose, Box 51, Carroll Co., Md., writes: "Let me thank the kind friends through Com-

"Let me thank the kind friends through Comport who sent me such nice reading matter during 1892. I answered some of their letters but could not answer them all, for I am poor. I am confined to the house the year round, but when the weather is nice I go out upon the porch. I cannot talk plain, neither can I walk without two crutches and then walking is difficult because of my great weakness. I find comfort in Comport's Sunshine Circle. Will the readers send me papers, books, or anything else that would interest me? I have been in this condition upwards of twenty-five years."

MRS. E. Tarbell, Blyston, Pa. would like a

MRS. E. TARBELL, Blyston, Pa., would like a birthday letter party the 8th of August.

Miss Jane Chapman, Ball Gap, West Va., wishes she might have a letter from the sisters of every State

of every State.

Miss Ida M. Connor, Ball Gap. West Va., would like reading matter to help pass away the lonely hours, also letters. Will send reading matter to any who will pay postage.

Miss Anna Morris, Box 16, Charlesville, Bed-ford Co., Pa., a great sufferer for ten years, and a lonely Shut-In, would be very grateful for letters and cancelled stamps.

MRS. SADIE MILLER, Mineral Ridge, Trumbull Co., Ohio, has a sweet little seven-year-old girl helpless with rheumatism, a loving, patient child, for whom she would be thankful to receive pictures and story books, or anything useful or amusing. Will also exchange reading matter or flower seeds.

MRS. A. D. BERRY, Rockaway, Morris Co., N. J., thanks the friends for reading matter and letters, and would answer the letters, but has been very sick again.

MRS. HATTIE N. MCGILL, Lewis, Kansan, bar

MRS. HATTIE N. McGILL, Lewis, Kansas, has been a sufferer for years and is now confined to her bed. Would be thankful for scraps for piece work, patterns of lace, and reading matter which she will pass on after reading. Enjoys Sunshine Circle very much.

MRS. A. J. WHITE, Frametown, West Va., is a great sufferer, lonely, and grateful for reading matter she has received. She would be glad of silk pieces to work on when she sits up in bed.

And now before I close I have one or two things I wish to speak of. First—postage stamps. I receive many letters asking for cancelled stamps, others offering stamps, and still others sending stamps. Often the question is asked me what are the stamps good for? I assure you I have no idea. I never yet have known of any one who got a dollar or a penny for old stamps. I cut the following item from a Philadelphia paper which I give here for your benefit: benefit:

a Philadelphia paper which I give here for your benefit:

"A woman in Pennsylvania, having accomplished the task of collecting a million old portage stamps, has now gone crazy after having discovered that they are as valueless as so much old paper. And yet we suppose the popular notion that such a collection possesses great value will not be disturbed. People like to be humbugged too well."

If, however, you still wish to collect and to exchange stamps, I must ask you not to send them to me as I have not the time to attend to them, but send to those who ask for them, direct. In the requests made the writers ask to have a margin cut of from one-fourth to one-laff inch around the stamp which is simply impossible, as the large majority of stamps are put on in the extreme corner, leaving no margin at all on two sides. If any one has any better information to give regarding stamps, I should be pleased to receive it.

ELLA H. WEST, Midland P. O., Marquette Co.,

ELLA H. West, Midland P. O., Marquette Co., Wisconsin, has stamps to give away.

MISS EDMEE BROWER, Harrisburg, Ark., a lit-e sick girl, wants stamps.

VERNIE DENNY, Box 906, Moscow, Latah Co., Idaho, wishes to exchange stamps for house plants.

MRS. HATTIE RECTOR, Ottumwa, Iowa, sends an earnest appeal for cancelled stamps for a young man who has been confined to the house

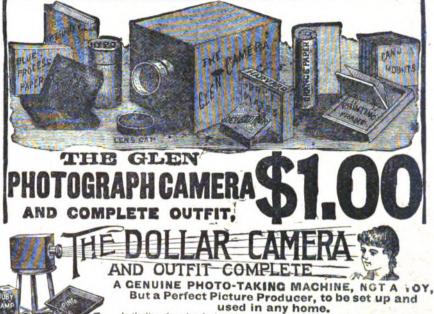
eight years. She thinks by getting a million stamps he can sell them and buy a reclining chair. Would it not be wise before collecting to write to "government" and find out if they would purchase?

That is all I can say now about stamps. I am very much gratified to find that so many of our Shut-Ins are profiting by the opportunity Comport has offered them to earn a little money. Within the last week or two many letters containing lists of five, ten, twenty, etc., names have been coming in, showing that the Shut-Ins are at work on this new idea and meeting with excellent success. In one or two letters the senders have asked the publishers to send the papers regularly. It is not necessary to ask this. Comport has the widest and largest circulation of any paper in the world, (I don't think I am exaggerating when I say this), and that where over a million papers are sent out every month, and thousands of them to new subscribers, if there is sometimes delay subscribers must exercise a little patience; if occasionally a mistake or an omission is made by the P. O. department they must exercise charity and at once notify the publishers instead of grumbling about it. The immense circulation, tells its own story. And with these few hints I must stay my pen for this time.

FOUNTAIN PEN FREE.

We have secured a large lot of fountain pens that will with the will the usuands of word without refulling they will withe thousands of or word in the town the the most corporate full is the nost expensive one. You can read made of a new material, and will will the thousands of or word in the thousands of or will will last the most corporate full is the nost expensive one. You can read made of a new material, and will will last the most corporate full the most corporate full the most corporate full will last one lightor. In order to obtain agents we will give a way one or a new papers or a new material, and will will last one lightors. In order to obtain agents we will give a way one or a leth person using the full catalogue of novel





In the line of our hundreds of low priced and reliable specialties, we now manufacture this Complete Photographing Outfit, which will be our leader during the coming scason. This outfit consists of everything shown in cut and mentioned below; A strong and perfectly made camera, which will take a picture 21-2 inches of the result of the

EVERY LADY HER OWN DRESSMAKER. The COMFORT A, B, C DRESS-CUT-TING SYSTEM, Free, as a Premium. Easiest to understand. Best and cheapest. Gives the quickest results with least trouble. No figuring. No calculations, No blunders. Most correct shape of any system ever devised. Every lady can learn more at a glance, using this system, than by many hours' study of others. The first trial will secure its adoption. It is equally valuable in the home or to the regular dressmaker.

Gives full instructions how every girl and woman can make for herself tasteful and well-fitting dresses, waists, and basques with the greatest ease and speed. Most scientific and exact results with the least measuring.

WF GIVF.

HERE IS WHAT WE GIVE:

One Regulation Size Differential Chart,
One Dozen Sheets Pattern Paper,
One Well-made Steel Tracing Wheel,
One Regulation Forestmaker's Tane Measure.

It is a heavily mounted chart over two yards long and two feet wide, having the different measurements all lined out for all kinds of garments, with Bust Measures from 25 to 46 inches. You get the Bust Measure of the person you want to cut a garment for and that one being the ONLY measurement required. Now it requires No DRAFTING, for all the different sizes have been Perforations in the chart at each cutting point show just where yours size is to come by simply laying on a piece of common Paper and tracing along the line with a lead pencil. All you then have to do is to cut your goods by the pattern you have thus manufactured yourself—that is all there is to it. But remember, you will find everything on the chart in shape, style and build of garments you want to use, and if you have old wearing apparel you want to make over into stylish fits, you go by the same system in changing them.

It Costs no More to have a STYLISH FITTING GALMENT than a poor one, and you actually save 50 per cent on goods by using our system, it has been studied down to such a fine point by experienced draughtsmen. So it requires no mathematical calculations on your part at all (all other systems require a good deal), you just go by the plans all laid out for you. You will find it so simple, complete and perfect in all its patterns and departments that it can but be acknowledged to be a requisite in Every Family, while all other extens and departments that it can but be acknowledged to be a requisite in Every Family, while all other systems require a good deal), you just go by the plans all laid out for you. You will find it so simple, complete and perfect in all its patterns and departments that it can but be acknowledged to be a requisite in Every Family, while all other systems of the patterns and the patterns and departments that it can but be acknowledged to be a requisite in Every F

alone is \$2.00.

But to every one who will get up a club of six subscribers for Comfort at 25 cents per year, each in advance, we will send one of these Comfort Outits FREE, we paying all express and mailing charges. By showing a copy of Comfort to your neighbors, friends, and acquaintance, you can eastly get up a club in one evening; for COMFORT, with its many improvements and new, original, copyrighted departments, now needs only to be seen to be appreciated. To those who do not care to go to the trouble of getting a club, we will send COMFORT for one year, together with one of these Outits (all express and mailing charges paid by us) upon receipt of one dollar. This offer holds good for three months only.

Ladies can make lots of money quickly, easily, and pleasantly. Write us at once for terms to agents.



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cometh back and explaineth th he resembleth a cupid clothed in the star spangled hanner, and when he returneth he looketh like the Old Harry after he hath monkeyed with a steam thresher. He commenceth the day wreathed in glee and glory like unto he owneth the whole earth, but



when it endeth he is wrapped in a spread of misery and lacketh one eye and two fingers. At dawn he promiseth his mamma to be a good little boy, but ere the glorious Fourth windeth up he setteth fire to his neighbor's barn with a cannon-cracker and blow eth the ear off his infant sister.

Yea, verily, the American small boy is a holy terzor.

IN THE PARLOR.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

A visitor had come to tea; 'Twas Johnnie's sisters's beau; He'd taken Johnny on his knee To let the people know



And then he tetered little John, Who sat astride his knee. And thought it such a funny thing, And seemed quite full of glee.

"How do you like to ride the mule?" The man asked, "Is it fun?" "O, yes, it could not greater be Were it a four-legged one!"

NO wonder the World's Fair was late in opening The managers had to address formal invitations to all foreign powers, and the time consumed in this may be inferred from the following full and correct title of the Governor in chief of New South Wales. Australia.

"The Right Honorable Victor Albert George Child Villiers, Earl of Jersey, Knight Grand Cross of the fost Distinguished Order of St. Michæl and St. deorge, Governor and Commander."

If His Lordship should bring his whole name to the Fair, and hold a reception, a lock-jaw epidemic may be expected-unless some Chicago belle will kindly put her foot on it.



School exhibit in the Angel's Wing department of the Transportation building, he saw a beautifully framed motto which read thusly:

> LITTLE HANDS SHOULD EVER BE ON THE WATCH TO DO GOOD.

That evening he concluded to see Chicago by moon light, and as there is a good deal to see in Chicago by moonlight, he didn't get around to his hotel until somewhat after one o'clock.

At about half past eight his wife became uneas and began ringing up the office every now and then to make anxious inquiries about her missing spouse. Every time the bell-boy answered he brought her s supply of ice-water until the lady sat surrounded by seventeen pitchers of Lake Michigan nectar.

But somehow she couldn't drown her sorrows. When the belated husband finally approached he emembered the motto that little hands should be on the watch to do good, so he turned the little hands on his watch back three hours, but found to his unspeakable grief that in his case, at least, it didn't do any good, for, upon knocking at the door, his wife poured out both her wrath and her ice-water, and he got it in the neck as per diagram hereto appended.

The following picture, which represents a "Song without Words," as it were, is respectfully dedicated to the American Small Boy. Its title is, "Before and After, or from Punk and Powder to Poultice and



"BEFORE AND AFTER."

WHEN Horatio Buggins of Bungtown, N. J., went to the Fair, his wife insisted upon taking their eighteen-months-old "treasure" along, instead of very properly leaving it with its maiden aunt, knew nine times better how to take care of it than its own mother-so, at least, the father said. But once on the Grounds they hailed with joy that grand institution, the Chicago Baby Safe Deposit Company, where you can check your infants for an hour or all day, leave full instructions for feed and fussing, and go on sight-seeing, just as though nothing had happened.

So the fond and happy mother, after an endless amount of palavering and puttering, which the patient trained attendant took good-naturedly, left the child and departed with Buggins to do the greatest show on earth. About five o'clock they returned to the children's corral and beheld young Arabella amid seven hundred and forty-three other kidlets, having a most beautiful time. But when the atten-dant politely asked them to pass in their check, what was their horror and consternation upon finding that

it was not to be found ed with the inflexible attendant.

"No check-no child," was the only answer they got.

To make matters worse, Arabella didn't recognize her frightened mother, but fairly howled to be taken in tow by a portly brunette from the South Sea Islands who proudly redeemed two chubby twins.

Now Buggins is one of those men to whom a row is the very breath of life, and he rushed off, bristling with rage, to the nearest judiciary for a writ of habeas corpus infan-tus, only to be told by

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turns-a n d some un-

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the World's

Fair, all pointing the

moral that one cannot

be too careful in acting

upon ideas

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delphia man

visited Chicago

with his

wife, and while view-

ing the Sing Sing Sunday

recently

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visitors

the learned Judge that while New Jersey was technically a part of the United States, it wasn't so practically, at least in his opinion, and his only chance would be to sue the Government. This cooled him off sufficiently to enable him to return and effect a compromise with the superintendent, who finally said that if they would wait until the Fair closed—eleven P. M.—if the infants weren't all called for by that time he could have whatever was left-one or a dozen!

GOOD FOR

OUR BABY

X-11-AX

So the Jersey couple sat down, not daring even to go to supper lest some resident of Alabangaloo or some other heathenish country should present the missing check and depart with their precious offspring. About half-past eight, when the nurse pro ceeded to rock Arabella to sleep, something bright and brassy rattled to the floor. It was the missing check, which Mrs. Buggins had given the child, the last thing that morning, to amuse itself with, and to bite on for the promotion of its teeth, while she was gone!

So what promised to be a long and interesting law suit was happily averted.

T. VITUS DANCE. One bottle Dr.M.M. Fenner's Speci-fle always cures. Circular with cures. Fredonia, N.Y.

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BY BUYING DIRECT FROM US.
Bicycles, all styles and sizes, for both sexes, all at factory prices. New and best makes; say what you want. Send for special catalogue. Chas.H. Sieg M'fg Co., 275 Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.



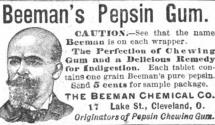


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are m ade strong by "Baby's Delight—amuses them for hours—not a toy—goes up and down in his saddle by his own efforts—prevents bowlegs—strengthens—doctors recommend it—6 months to 4 years. Delivered free, east of Chicago and north of Baltimore.

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400 E 233 Our large 24-page Catalogue, profuse. Sly illustrated, full 201 information on the proper construc-tion of Planos and Organs. We ship on test trial, ask no cash in advance.sell on instalments, give cash in auva-on instalments, give value for greater value for the money than any

SSEDEE

other manufactures Send for this book at once to BEETHOVEN ORGAN CO. WASHINGTON, N. J.
P. O. Box 1024.

"LACTATED FOOD SAVES BABIES' LIVES."

"Last August our baby was taken with Cholera Infantum, and was soon so thin no one knew her. She could



keep nothing on her stomach until I gave her Lactated Food. She drank this greedily, and by night I had great hopes of her recovery. Now she is as fat as butter,

and every one says that Lactated Food saved her life." Mrs. Wm. Elliott, 115 Louisa St., Peoria, Ill.

Mothers cannot afford to use any other food than *Lactated* for their bables in the summer months. A regular-sized package for trial free.

WELLS, RICHARDSON & Co., Burlington, Vt.



RUN! SPEAK to that YOUNG MAR. see,"and AGENTS easily \$250 worth of ARNOLD

Automatic STEAM COOKERS

per month, and become rich and
respected. Write for terms at once.
WILEOT CASTLE & CO., 84 Eim St., Rochester, R. Y.

*************** A CRAND DISCOVERY!!

WANTED.—A live man or woman in every county where we have not already secured a representative to sell our "Nevada Silver" Solid Metal Knives, Forks and Spoons to consumers: a solid metal as white as silver: no plate to wear off: goods guaranteed to wear a lifetime: cost about one-tenth that of silver: the chance of a lifetime: agents average from \$50 to \$500 per week and meet with ready sales everywhere, so great is the demand for our Solid Metal Goods. Over One Million Dollars' worth of goods in daily use. Case of samples Free.

STANDARD SILVERWARE CO., Boston, Mass.





RUPTURE CURED Positively Holds Rupture.
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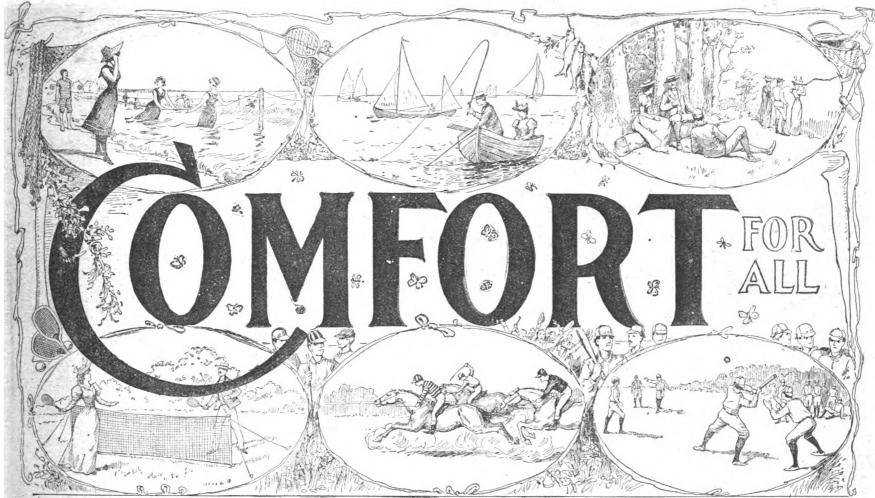
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VOL.5. № 10 PUBLISHED MONTHLY 25c Per Year

AUGUST, 1893

THE GANNETT & MORSE CONCERN



\$100.00 PRIZE STORIES \$100.00

\$2±)[[

The following conditions will hereafter govern the awarding of eash prizes for Nutshell Stories, and the manuscripts of such writers only as have compiled with all these reguirements will receive consideration.

All the necessary particulars being here clearly set forth, it will be useless for any one to seek further information or personal favors by addressing the editor, as such letters cannot be answered.

1. Only persons who are regular yearly subscribers to "Comfort" and who send with every manuscript at least two new yearly subscribers (together with 25 cents for each subscriber so sent) may compete for the prizes.

2. All contributions must have the number of words they contain plainly noted thereon in addition to the writer's full name and address with nom de plume if desired; must be written on one side of the paper only, addressed to Editor NUTSHELL STORY CLUB care of COMPORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

3. All stories must be strictly original with the contributors who may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace; or city or country life, or of experiences on land or sea—but no story must contain more than 1,500 or less than 1,000 words.

4. NO MANUSCRIPT WILL BE RETURNED UNDER ANY

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5. The writer of the best original story will receive \$30 cash; of the second best, \$25 cash; of the third best, \$20 cash; of the fourth best, \$15 cash; and of the fifth best, \$10 cash. Remittances will be sent by check as soon as awards have been made.

Remutances and continued to pur-be been made.
 Comfort" reserve the right to pur-se at their established rates any stories submitted er the foregoing offer, which failed to secure a prize.

PRIZE WINNERS FOR AUGUST.

William G. Patten, First Prize.

Kenyon West, Second Prize. Mrs. Addie C. Topham, Third Prize. Lillie Woodzelle Campbell, Fourth Prize.

TE.—After this, five cash prizes amounting to \$100.00 will be awarded every month as explained in the conditions printed above.

THE MYSTERY OF A DREAM.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY WILLIAM G. PATTEN.

by The Gannett & Morse C.



N my life rests the shadow of one great mystery.

I never think of that dreadful night without a shudder of horror, brought to me by the thought, that, possibly my hands may be stained by the blood of a fellow creature,

who was found murdered in his bed.

The recurring memory has prematurely whitened my hair and brought a haunted look to my eyes. I am not an habitual sleep-walker, but I would give all my earthly possessions to be convinced I did not leave my chamber between the hours of 11 P. M., April 13th, and 5 o'clock the following morning, nine years ago.

I was utterly wearied and worn out by a hard day's labor when I retired to rest, for I was one of the unfortunate reporters employed on a struggling afternoon paper, every man of whom was made to hustle and do the work of three. I had covered two fires, a cable car catastrophe, lamps. Back to my lodging house I went, en-

Chinatown stabbing, and an elopement; but as blood from my hands, removed my clothes and AN UNWILLING DETECTIVE. the two last mentioned were "beats," I indulged myself with a little after dinner round with "the boys" and went to bed feeling wobbly in the legs and quite well satisfied with myself.

As I was tired and not a little stupid from the heavy dinner and the wine, I fell asleep readily, and must have slept soundly for a time. At length, I seemed to awaken with a strong desire to arise and leave the house. I got up and dressed myself, seemingly governed by a will other than my own. I took out my watch and looked at it, suddenly remembering I had not wound it on retiring. It was twenty-three minutes past 2 o'clock. I wound it then.

Quietly leaving my room, I went out upon the streets, which lay lonely and deserted in that quarter, only echoing, now and then, to the footsteps of some belated pedestrian, or a prowling night-owl. I started to walk in one direction, but the singular influence that had led me to leave my comfortable bed turned me square about, and caused me to take an opposite course.

I walked on and on until the streets were no longer straight and regular and the houses precise and respectable. Instead, the streets were narrow and crooked, dark alleys lay on every hand, and the buildings were of the most wretched type. The figures which skulked along through the shadows seemed creatures of the night, such as honest people should shun-I was in the slums.

Down a strange street of ramshackle houses

Ascending some staggering steps, I pushed open a door with a broken pane! and made my way up a shaky flight of stairs. I entered a room that was dimly lighted by a smoking oil lamp. There were a few pieces of broken furniture, and on a bed in one corner slept a man who were a close-cropped coal-black beard.

The moment I saw that sleeping man I was seized with a fearful fury-an uncontrollable desire to leap upon him and crush out his life. It seemed that he had done me an unpardonable wrong at some past period, and in my heart was a fierce thirst for vengeance.



self on the man. I caught him by the throat so he could not cry out, and then I beat him with the bottle. It was a fearful struggle, but in the end he lay still and lifeless before me.

Out upon the street I crept. I felt no remorse for my act; only a wild exultation and satisfaction. Yet I knew I was kin of the dark shadows which skulked close to the dirty walls and shunned the light of the feebly fluttering

crept into bed.

When I arose in the morning, there was a dull pain in my head. This I did not consider strange on thinking of my late dinner and the wine which had followed it. I disliked to get up, but, remembering my duties, I arose, taking a quick glance at my watch. It was not running. I shook it, and it refused to start. Then I tried to wind it, but in this I failed. It had stopped at twenty-three minutes past 2 o'clock!

Then, all at once, I remembered my dream for a dream it seemed, although a vivid one For an instant, I was shocked, but, thinking of the late dinner, I quickly dismissed the matter. However, as I was dressing, I noticed on the right cuff of my shirt a single red splotch that looked like blood.

I didn't eat much breakfast. On my way to the office, I stepped into a watchmaker's and told him something was broken about my timepiece. He examined it, quickly saying:

"There's nothing broken. It is simply wound too tight. It did not run half a minute after you wound it up."

This was a staggerer. Had I really wound the watch in a dream? If so, what about the remainder of the dream?

When I reached the office, the city editor dispatched me at once to investigate a reported murder on J—street. I hurried thither. As I turned down the street, which I was ready to swear I had never before set foot in, I observed things looked familiar about me. It did not take me long to reach the number, and there I found a crowd assembled. My press badge let me past the police on guard at the door which, to my dismay, had a broken panel.

As I ascended to the fatal room, the stairs shook and creaked beneath my feet in a way that brought back the memory of my terrible dream with appalling vividness. When I reached the top, I instinctively turned to the left and entered the room. It was the same!-the same broken furniture was there!-the same miserable bed was in the corner!

I knew what I would see when I advanced toward that bed. Still, when my eyes rested on the battered head of a black-bearded man, beside whom lay a heavy bottle that had been used to accomplish the terrible deed, I reeled back, uttered a loud cry and fell to the floor.

The two weeks which followed are a blank to me. They said it was brain fever, brought on by overwork and exposure. When I told them I murdered that man, they tried to quiet me, saying the delirium of the fever had not entirely passed away. The murderer, who was the unfortunate man's roommate, had been found floating, a corpse, in the river, according to the newspapers. He had not confessed to the killing, but other parties in the house testified to hearing an altercation and a struggle in that room between 2 and 3 o'clock in the night.

To me the mystery of that night is as pro found and fearful as ever. Did I dream? Or did I walk in my sleep? Is it possible that, governed by a will not my own, I made my way to that house and committed the murder? How did it happen that my watch was wound up so tightly it stopped at twenty-three minutes past 2 o'clock? Was it really blood I saw on the cuff of my shirt? As I have said, I would give all my earthly possessions to know I had no hand in the perpetration of that crime. I try to ease my troubled mind by thinking it possible, if I really walked in my sleep, that I entered that

AUGUSTA, MAINE

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY KENYON WEST.

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VERY one knows Burton Park in Rochester, New York: its fine oldfashioned houses standing at the back of noble, lofty trees through which the sunlight falls upon velvet lawns and terraces; the exquisite effect of light and shade and play of color making the place in

summer surpassingly beautiful.

It has seemed strange to many in the city that one of the largest houses in the Park has remained vacant ever since last summer. Truly the effect of the dismal, empty house has been anything but beautiful-the blinds tightly closed, the snow covered veranda untrodden by feet of tramp or visitor or postman; some days the snow, even, being left in drifts on the sidewalk in front to excite the ire of the passerby.

We all felt sorry to have the Bentleys leave but fortune had been relentless and their old home was now owned by the Dovedale Bank, and, strange to say, up to the occurrence of the events I am about to relate no purchaser for it had been found.

We who lived next door felt the loneliness of the old house keenly at first; but gradually we grew accustomed to the closed blinds, to the darkness and the silence.

My library window commanded a good view of the entire south side of the empty house; and, as it stood a little further back than my own house, its front windows also were exposed to our scrutiny whenever we chose to

Often, as I turned off my gas at night, I would pause to look out at the dark shadow looming up close to my library window. At last every aspect of the old house became so familiar that I could have easily told if any change had been made during the day, even if a blind had been opened and closed again.

I had been writing letters one evening, quite when my wife came wind is roaring very loud to-night, Philip, I think I will not go up stairs till you are ready.'

"Very well, dear," I replied, "I will go at once. But that is not all the wind that makes that noise. The river must be very high tonight. I shouldn't wonder if by morning more ice would break loose. Say, suppose we go for a walk and see it; the effect will be sublime this dark, tempestuous night."

Nothing loath, my wife seized her things and

Ten minutes later we were standing beside the Genesee, near Court St. Bridge. My wife firmly grasped my arm to steady herself in the rushing, mighty wind, while the loud swirl of the roaring water, as it dashed against the banks, and hurled itself down beneath the bridge, and on towards the aqueduct, almost drowned our voices.

The night was very dark, the air damp and chill. Nevertheless the rushing, roaring water, full of blocks of ice, which clanked and banged against the buttment of the bridge; the whistling wind; the far-off twinkle of the city lights; all tended to lend to the whole a

It was not till after midnight that we thought

of returning to our home.

The few men who had at first been our companions had long since departed and we were quite alone on the bridge. As we turned from looking at the rapids, my wife's hand convulsively grasped my aim, and, in a stifled whisper, she exclaimed: "Look Philip! Oh! what is that?"



ing to make objects there faintly discernible. Almost at the instant my wife spoke I saw the forms of two men outlined upon the aqueduct; they were struggling together, and suddenly, as we caught our breath in excitement, one of them lost his footing and fell down, down into the rushing flood beneath, and his body was borne, amid the crushing, cruel ice, on towards the Lower Falls.

I cannot describe the mental strain of the subse

I cannot describe the mental strain of the subsequent weeks.

The newspapers dealt with every phase of the tragedy which haunted our waking and sleeping visions. It is needless to recall any of the details to my readers, except to speak of the fact which was brought out at the inquest, that the man found among the ice, at the foot of the Falls, had been last seen in the company of a friend whom he had deeply wronged; that the two had been heard engaged in a passionate argument; and on the very night on which I had been witness of a terrible deed, this friend had disappeared and no trace had yet been discovered of his hiding place. I volunteered no information in regard to my presence at the river, and much to our relief no one apparently knew of it.

Meanwhile I got interested in my work and remained at my desk a great part of every day.

The empty house looming up opposite my window remained the same. It was never visited by would be purchasers, and, strange to say, the owners seemed to manifest no desire to give it necessary air; the windows were never opened, the blinds remaining all the time tightly closed. Once or twice a man appeared on the roof to shovel off the snow, but he got there by means of a ladder placed against the outside, and, when the work was done, he took his ladder and departed.

One evening, just before retiring, I stepped forward to turn out my gas—my shades were up—when I noticed footprints in the snow, between the house and my own. The space was flooded with light from my gas jet and I could distinctly see that these footprints began at the cellar window. Not attaching any importance to this at the time I inferred that they were made by the man who had that very day shovelled snow from the roof; but I afterwards found that he had not entered the area between the houses.

snowledged show from the roof; but I afterwards found that he had not entered the area between the houses.

The next morning it seemed to me that the blinds directly opposite my window stood just about an inch ajar, and there were certainly footprints outside, though a clumsy attempt had evidently been made to obliterate them.

After that my wife and I grew interested in watching the house. At first we thought it had perhaps been sold, but, as no blinds were thrown open, we gave up the idea.

One rainly morning my wife asked me if I heard Beal's grocery wagon in the park to tell her, as she could give her order to the boy and thus save a journey out in the wet. In about an hour I heard the boy's shrill "whoa" and signalled him to go around to the kitchen. As I returned to my desk I saw a hand resting upon the ledge of the cellar window opposite. Withdrawing within the shadow of the curtain, I then saw a man's head emerge from the narrow space, the eyes glance furtively up at my window, then up and down the area and into the deserted street. Then quick as a flash the man's whole form sprang out the window. He ran to the market wagon, extracted from it two parcels lying on the top of others, then he slid back between the houses, threw the parcels in the window and climbed in himself, drawing the blind close again; then all remained as before.

The market boy, cheerily whistling, came out,

regon, extracted from it two parcels lying on the top of others, then he slid back between the houses, threw the parcels in the window and climbed in himself, drawing the blind close again; then all remained as before.

The market boy, cheerily whistling, came out, climbed up on his seat, and the horse started off, neither dreaming of what had just taken place.

"Can it be possible," thought I, "that a human being is concealed there in that cold dark place and is absolutely starving while I—

I broke off there and went in search of my wife.

Thereupon we both fell to watching the mysterious house closely for signs of life within. Not wishing to harm the poor wretch, whose thin pale aface haunted me, by calling the attention of others to him I made no effort to get the key and personally investigate; but I placed parcels of food within the ledge of the cellar window, out of sight of the street. They remained there for several days, then disappeared. Once I saw the same thin hand reach out and take them.

Soon after that we noticed the sunshine streaming into the empty house by means of windows thrown wide open. Going around to the front door I found it also open and entered.

A gentleman whom I knew to be one of the directors of the Dovedale Bank stood in the hall and greeted me. "We are showing the house to Mr. Travers, with a view to purchasing it." he explained, "but it is so confoundedly damp and close we can scarcely breathe." He further said that he would be most happy if I would accompany them around the different rooms. With a beating heart I followed them everywhere, even opened closet doors which they seemed inclined to pass. No trace whatever of the fugitive! Could, he have climbed out upon the roof when he heard the unwonted commotion, or had he slipped out and gone?

Keeping silence in regard to the object of my presence there I chose to let the gentlemen attribute it to idle curiosity and bade them adleu. When they left, the house was closed as before. The next day they returned. This time I walked

approached the furnace, its black dusty shape looming up weirdly in the semi-darkness.
"I will have a fire built to-morrow to dry out the house," said the director, "meanwhile you can see, Travers, that the thing is of a late make, the bricks are well cemented and the concrete floor—"

The speaker was interrupted by that which made him start back in sudden surprise and terror. The immense door of the furnace opened from within, and the form of a man fell through it at our feet. His face, hands, hair, and clothes were black with soot and streaked with ashes; but we could see that the face was refined, and but for its strange thinness might have been even beautiful.

There is little more to be told. In my warm brary, fed slowly with brandy, the man revived emewhat, but he could not speak. We saw that the

stupendous energy which had supported him through these frightful weeks of loneliness, remorse, and suffering was gradually leaving him; that the will power, which had made him capable of punishing with death the friend who had wronged him, was now grown weak, since he knew that all hope was over for him.

"Won't you tell me all about it my poor fellow?" asked Mr. Travers with a tremble in his voice; and my wife sobbed aloud.

The next moment the pale face of the stranger grew still paler and he sank back in Mr. Travers' arms—dead.

A TALE OF TWO DOUGHNUTS.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY MRS. ADDIE C. TOPHAM.

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HEY lay in Tommy Jones' dinner-pail, and Tommy was thinking longingly of them as he toiled up the long flights of stairs to the top of the big Boston warehouse, to finish his Monday morning's cleaning on the upper floor.

He met the proprietor on the way-"old Smith"

the clerks called him, though he wasn't an old man by any means.

Tommy thought how differently he would do things if only he had all that money. To begin with, he would speak to a boy that he met on his stairs, if he was only the general slavey of the establishment. Then he would get more fun out of all those thousands than by living alone in that great house on Commonwealth Avenue, with no one to speak to but a crosseyed old housekeeper, who was even sourer than her

Tommy went to sweeping, absorbed in dreams what he would do with "Old Smith's" money, and "Old Smith" himself went slowly down to the first

Tommy's dinner-pail caught his eye, and he wondered whose it was, and what was in it. Lifting the cover, he saw two great golden brown doughnuts, lying on a clean white napkin.

"Old Smith's" mouth watered. He hadn't seen such doughnuts since he lived at home, and his mother made that very same kind-his mother and one other, and his heart ached dully at the thought of that other, and how, through her, he was living his

Mechanically he examined the other contents of the pail. Two very thick slices of bread and butter, and a piece of cheese. "Old Smith" wanted that lunch; he hadn't felt so hungry for anything for fifteen years. He hesitated and was lost. Taking the pail, he sneaked into his private office, locked the door, and deliberately made way with the last

It tasted as good as it looked, and he wished there

crumb.

It tasted as good as it looked, and he wished there had been another doughnut.

Now, however, there was a penalty ahead, for, indifferent as he might be to the world in general, even he could not steal a poor boy's dinner, and not make some return. He knew it must belong to the boy with the broom, so he carried back the empty pail, and sat down to wait for Tommy.

The noon whighte blew, and Tommy came whistling down the stairs, and made a bee-line for his pail, the lifted the cover, and the listener heard an exclamation of wrath.

"By gosh! I'll make it hot for the jay that's put this up on me."

"Boy!" said a voice behind him, and Tommy turned to face his employer. "Is that your dinner-pail?"

"Yes sir."

"Very well, get your hat and come with me for some dinner. The fact is, yours looked so good, I ate it myself."

Tommy's eyes bulged out. To think of the great man, who, every day, feasted on the fat of the land, wanting his humble luncheon, was too much for him! Mr. Smith felt foolish, too. He knew he ought to explain further, but he wasn't used to boys, and he stalked silently on, till, before the bewildered Tommy realized his surroundings, he was seated at one of the tables of the great dining-room at Young's Hotel, and told to go through the bill-of-fare if he liked, and take plenty of time.

"Serve the boy just as you would me, Sam," Mr. Smith said to the waiter, "and charge it to my account. I shall want no lunch to-day."

He was turning away, but Tommy jumped from his seat, and, forgetting, in his earnestness, his awe of his employer, laid his hand imploringly one his sleeve:

"Please, Mr. Smith, I don't mind a bit going without any dinner, and would you be willing to let me



"Old Smith" to exchange dinners often.
And "Old Smith" sat in his office thinking strange thoughts for him.
Why did that boy interest him so? He could see again the eager look in the brown eyes, as he asked if he night have what his dinner would cost. Did all brown eyes look alike? or was there an expression in those like—and then he pulled himself together with a start, for Tommy stood hesitating in the doorway.

Both surprised themselves in the talk that fol-

Both Surprised themselves in the themselves.

Mr. Smith, that he could feel a real human interest in anything outside his business, and Tommy, to find how easily he could talk and tell his humble little history to the great man he had always stood in awe

of. He even found himself talking of his father, a subject the boy always avoided.

"I hated him, Mr. Smith, and I was glad when they brought him home dead. That was five years ago, and we've had hard pulling since, but we've been happy together. He would come home ugly drunk, and break the dishes, because there was no meat, and no money for any. And he would strike baby Elsie because she cried; strike mother too, sometimes, and twit her of wishing she had her 'dear John' back, and call himself a tool for breaking up the match by writing a letter in her handwriting that sent her idiot of a lover out west without asking up any questions. And then about his making mother believe the other man was tired of her, and—"

"Tommy!" almost shouted his employer, "what was your mother's name before your father married her?"

"Helen Rogers, sir," answered the boy, wonder-

Helen Rogers, sir," answered the boy, wonder-"Good God!" and Mr. Smith dropped like a log in his chair. "What a fool I have been all these long

years."

Half an hour afterward, Tommy, with Mr. Smith at his heels, raced up the long flights of stairs, and threw open the door of the little room where his mother sat sewing.

And then "Old Smith" sent Tommy and Elsie out

to treat themselves to ice cream.

They all live in the big house now, and the good timer Tommy once thought ought to be in that house, are happening every day.

ZEB.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT BY LILLIE WOODZELLE CAMPBELLE.

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T was a damp misty day among the New Eng-land hills. There had been a sudden thaw, melting the winter snows in patches, and causing the mountain streams to surge angrily along their rocky beds.
But in Mrs. Prescott's

clean kitchen there was no trace of the chill without. Mrs. Prescott herself stood by the long table busily ironing. She was a thin, hard-featured

woman, wearing a tired look. She had risen long before day, and prepared breakfast for the farm hands and made ready for school a bevy of noisy children.

Then there had been milking and churning to do, with dinner to cook and send to her husband and the men at the sugar camp, half a mile off.

All was done now and Mrs. Prescott wearily began

the weekly ironing, wondering if she could finish before supper-time.

Four year old Benny sat on the floor endeavoring to harness pussy, with bits of string, to an old cigar box. His startled exclamation of "Mamma, mamma!" caused Mrs. Prescott to look up.

A lank, overgrown negro lad stood in the doorway. He was miserably clad; but took off his brimless hat with the salutation:

"Mawnin' Mum!"

Most northern people have a natural horror of the African race and Mrs. Prescott was no exception.

"What brought you here!" she sharply exclaimed.

"I'd like t'sot by de fire a minute, Misses."

"No, you shan't, I've no room in my kitchen for a nasty nigger. Take yourself off."

"Ise dreffle hungry, Missis." "Go away, you lazy good-for-nothing!"

"I kin chop wood mum, er fotch water if you'll gimme sumpin t'eat."

"Yes, I'll be bound you will. You niggers are a grateful lot. You're sneakin' round to find something to steal and I'll not give you a crumb. Go away this instant, or I'll call the dogs."

This threat was sufficient, and the boy turned

Blue-eyed Bennie had crept, unnoticed, from the room and ran after the boy, with his pink pinafore gathered about his waist.

"Top an' wait," he cried, "I bring oo tum apples." The hungry boy's eyes sparkled as he eagerly

The hungry boy's eyes sparkled as he eagerly gathered six great red apples from Bennie's apron and put them in his ragged pockets.

"Tankey." he said, gratefully, laying his long fingers for a second on Bennie's yellow curls.

A few minutes later Bennie had dragged his high chair close to thestable, where his mother worked, and climbed into it.
"Mamma, why didn't you div ze boy tum bwead?"
"Don't bother, Bennie."
"Is niggers bad, Mamma?"
"Yes."
"What made ze boy brack Mamma?"

"What made ze boy brack, Mamma?"
"Hush! Bennie."

"Hush! Bennie."

Bennie sat slent a moment, regarding his mother as she carefully smoothed the wrinkles from his father's Sunday shirt.

"Zat pitty an clean," he said, planting his little dirty hand full on the spotless front.

"Oh, Bennie, you bad boy!" cried his mother, angrily slapping the baby fingers. Bennie's eyes filled with tears as he tucked the offending hand under his pinafore, and watched his mother dip a cloth in water and vainly try to wipe the little finger prints from the snowy linen.

"Mamma." he presently said, "tant I do to de toogy tamp?"

"No."

"No."
"Why, Mamma?"
"Because it's raining."
"Basn't wainy, den I tould do, touldn't I."
"I reckon so," replied his mother, absently.
Bennie slipped from his high chair and out of the

Bennie slipped from his high chair and out of the room.

"It aint wainy at all," he soliloquized, standing on the back steps, "an' I'm doin' find Papa."

Mrs. Prescott was very busy and did not miss the child for an hour; then she searched the house, thinking he had fallen asleep somewhere; then she went outside and called, but no answer. A sudden fear seized her. What if Bennie had tried to find the sugar camp and fallen in the creek!

Bareheaded she rushed from the house and sought the creek; but standing on the wet foot-bridge that spanned the little stream, she dared not look into the rushing tumbling water, lest she should see Bennie's pink pinafore and yellow curls.

On she sped, not pausing a moment till she reached the sugar camp. Mr. Prescott dropped, in amazement, the long handled ladle with which he was skimming the boiling sap.

"What is it wife?" he asked.
"Bennie," she cried, wildly. "Is Bennie here?"
Bennie had not been there, and Mr. Prescott, with two of the men started homeward to search for him. The poor mother, forgetting she was tired, kept pace with the men.

"Bennie has not crossed the bridge," said the father, when they had reached the creek, "for here is his little track in the mud. He has turned down stream."

Something like hope stirred Mrs. Prescott's breast

Stream."
Something like hope stirred Mrs. Prescott's breast as they followed the little footprints steadily onward. They led dangerously near the water's edge, and once—the mother's heart stood still—one little foot had slipped partially over the bank in the soft mud.



brandy and water and brought him some warm, dry clothing.

"What is your name?" she asked.

"Zeb," replied the boy.

"I don't know how to thank you, Zeb, for saving my baby's life after I had driven you, cold and hungry, from my door."

"He's a little angel, missis, an' I was drefile hungry; I could hardly go no furder'n here. He come runnin' after me, a-fotchin' me apples—Lord, mum, but they wuz good, an' big, an' red," and Zeb smacked his lips.

runnin atter me, a but they wuz good, an' big, an' red, 'and Zeb smacked his lips.
"Did Bennie give you apples?"
"Yis'm."
Mrs. Prescott's eyes filled with tears.
"My little boy is a better Christian than his mother; and even this ignorant tramp is teaching me gratitude and forgiveness," she said to herself.
When Zeb started on his journey, the following morning, it was with a well-filled knapsack swung over his shoulder.
And though Mrs. Prescott never quite overcame her prejudice against the negro race, she was enabled, henceforth, to think of them with more consideration; and never again was the cold and needy sent empty from her door.

"August Flower"

"I am ready to testify under oath that if it had not been for August Flower I should have died before this. Eight years ago I was taken sick, and suffered as no one but a dyspeptic can. I employed three of our best doctors and received no benefit. They told me that I had heart, kidney, and liver trouble. Everything I ate distressed me so that I had to throw it up. August Flower cured me. There is no medicine equal to it." LORENZO F. SLEEPER, Appleton, Maine.

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SALARY OR COMMISSION

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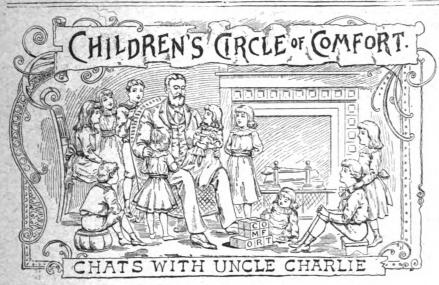
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OU will remember that we were going to the World's Fair again this month, children, and into Carl Hagenbeck's wonderful Trained Animal Exhibition. We shall have to take a rainy day when there are not many people out; for as there are a great many more than a million Comfort children there will be ro room for anybody else. Just think of it! There are, at least, a million and a half children in our Circle, for the publishers' sworn records show that Comfort goes into one million, two hundred and twenty thousand hemes every month. And as some of us are very small, you older ones mustn't mind if lexplain things very minutely sometimes.

Well, here we are at Mr. Hagenbeck's show. When Carl Hagenbeck was a little boy, over in Germany, his father caught and tamed a couple of bears, which were the admiration of the whole village where he lived. He used to charge a small sum for showing them; and pretty soon he added an owl and a trained pony, and finally had quite a little menagerie. When little Carl grew to be a man, he had wonderful success in taming wild animals; and so he decided to become a trainer of them. He went to Africa and caught wild beasts for a living. That is, he trapped them and after taming the young ones, sold them to circus men and menageries all over the world. Most of Mr. Barnum's and Forepaugh's animals were caught by Mr. Hagenbeck. And finally he set up a menagerie of his own in Berlin that is the finest in the world.

Let us walk around the place a little before the performance begins. Here are a lot of big iron cages, each containing several animals. In this one there are thirty-five monkeys. In the next, is a "Happy family" consisting of six Malay bears, twenty monkeys and a dog. Beyond is another, where a striped hyena, an African hunting, dog, a pig, and three nose bears live together in peace.

This cage is the home of "Miss Lily" the dwarf elephant who is only thirty-five inches high and is the smallest grown-up elephant in the world. She came from Sumatra. Here is a cage containing "Princ



OU will remember that we were going to the World's Fair again this month, children, and into Carl Hagenbeck's wonderful Trained Animal Exhibition. We shall have to take a rainy day when there are not many people out; for as there are a great many more than a million Comfort children there will be no room for anybody else. Just think of it! There are, at least, a million and a half chil-

AN INTELLIGENT PIG.

such a ring, of course. And here comes another pig, and sits down on the man's hat. Now both of the pigsteeter. Here comes a man bringing one of those tubs again, and puts it on the table. The second pig is going to do something now. Why, he climbs up on to the table by a ladder and then gets on the tub. And see! the clown is climbing up on the pig's back, and stands up there a minute and then—why, he is standing on his own head on the pig's back! And the pig seems to be having a lovely time, too. Now they are coming back and the first pig is being harnessed into a cart. Here comes another—a little pig. The little one gets into the cart and rides, while the first draws him and the second pushes behind. Did you ever see such pigs as these?

And now the pigs have trotted off, and here

pushes behind. Did you ever see such pigs as these?

And now the pigs have trotted off, and here comes a pony with a big flat saddle on his back, and a cloth covered with spikes on his neck. The man in the ring fires off a pistol and in comes a lion and a dog. The lion jumps on the pony's back and rides a round, standing up, with the dog trotting behind. O, now we see what

time.

See those bars the men are putting up in the middle of the cage? The lion, and pony, and dog are all going to jump over them. You notice that every time the lion does anything well, the man gives him a piece of meat. He knows he will get his reward, and so he tries to do his best. Isn't that better than whipping him?

round the circle three times. The dogs keep their position very well, but as the ponies have anothing but smooth hoofs, they cannot cling to the smooth flanks in front of them very well, and they have hard work to keep their position. But they do it pretty well.

"What is the man going to do with that board?"

He is putting it across a saw-horse. It is what you would call a "teeter," boys. Yes, and the animals are going to mount it. See the elephant balance herself in the middle while a dog and a pony on each end "teeter." And then they all run off together. Everybody is cheering them and they actually seem to know it. See the dogs wag their tails and look around an. the ponies prance and curve their necks as if they felt proud of their own skill?

Now, comes another performance. Only a great shagy pig! What can he do? See that man in colored tights riding him; and see him jump those three-foot bars. Now the man puts up a high table and a board leading un to it on

all the lions get down and go back to their seats, except one—the handsomest old brown fellow. He evidently thinks that scarf is so pretty that he don't want to give it up. So there he stands and holds it. The man orders him to let go of it; but the lion will not. Then the man takes hold of it and pulls it, but the lion shakes his head and utters little playful sounds, just



PRINCE ON HORSE-BACK.

like those many of you have heard your old cat make to her kittens. (You know the lion and the cat belong to the same great family of animals, anyway).

Well, the lion still holds the scarf, and the man has to fairly pull it away; and now, the lion won't get down. What does the man do? He just laughs at him, and turning round, he shoves the lion over his shoulders and carries the great creature off to his bench and seats him there like a naughty school-boy, who won't otey his teacher, and has to be made to mind!

Then the lions stretch themselves out flat on the floor, and the dog jumps over them, and then the teeter comes on again and two lions take their turn at it while the dog balances himself in the center. A tricycle is brought on next, and the old brownish lion gets on it and sits down, while two dogs push it around the circle. They don't go very evenly, and finally smash the tricycle up against a couple of lions that are lying on the floor; but there is no growling or ill-temper shown; and the old one rides on undisturbed. After the tricycle ride is over, they all lie down in the middle of the ring and the trainer lies on top of them; and then the second dog gets up on his hind legs and dances. And then the performance closes with a chariot race. Three lions are harnessed and hitched in to the queer looking chariot; and the old bronze fellow gets in and sits down and rides round. They go pretty fast, and after a while they all run off together and the tricks are over.

Now what do you suppose is the secret of Mr.



WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO RIDE?

ck's wonderful success with these It is all explained in one word—

Hagenbeck's wonderful success with these animals. It is all explained in one word—
Kindness.

He feeds his animals all they want to eat. They are nice, fat, healthy creatures; and as wild animals are seldom cross when they are well-fed, that is a great point gained. Again, although he has them under perfect control, he is not cross or cruel himself. He is never harsh with his animals, and seldom strikes them a blow. He takes young animals to train (you cannot teach old animals anything) and is patient and gentle with them. He does not whip them into obeying him, but patiently wins their affection and willingness to do what he wants of them. This, he says, is his secret of success. It will be well for all of you to remember it in your treatment of animals of any kind.

Sometimes the Hagenbeck animals are taken out for an airing, one at a time. The old bronze lion—a perfect beauty, he is, too—was not very well a few weeks ago, and Mr. Hagenbeck took him out on the Plaisance, the lion walking at his heels like a spaniel. Of course, everybody was scared to death, as the saying is, at sight of him, but the strange pair walked right on. And when Mr. Hagenbeck turned to go back, the lion turned too, and followed him back to the cage, where he licked his trainer's hand, and then went in and lay down. Mr. Hagenbeck: says this lion is one of the biggest in the world, although he has not yet got his growth. He is perfectly gentle and at Mr. Hagenbeck's shome, in Hamburg, he is not kept in a cag. all the time, but is allowed to play in the yard with his children. How would you like such a playfellow as that?

But dear me! How late it is getting, and here are a million and a half children to be sent home before dark. But tell me, before you go, wasn't that the most interesting place in the World's Fair?

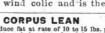
There were a lot of interesting marine and other natural curiosities down stairs that I wanted to show you; but we must let them go,

There were a lot of interesting marine and other natural curiosities down stairs that I wanted to show you; but we must let them go, and sometime I will take you to a Museum of Natural History instead.

UNCLE CHARLIE.

Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for children MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays pain, cures wind colic and is the best.

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Purifies the blood and regulates the system. Large bot., 23, 3 for \$3. Reg., 31, 25

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ROOT AND BRANCH, the poison in your blood, however it the poison in your blood, however it may have come or whatever shape it may be taking, is cleared away by Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It's a remedy that rouses every organ into healthful action, purifies and enriches the blood, and through it cleanses and invigorates the whole system. Salt-rheum, Tetter, Eczema, Erysipelas, Boils, Carbuncles, Enlarged Glands, and the worst Scrofulous Sores and Swellings, are perfectly and permanently ings, are perfectly and permanently cured by it. Unlike the ordinary Spring medicines or sarsaparillas, the "Discovery" works equally well at all seasons. All the year round and in all cases, it is guaranteed, as no other blood medicine is. If it ever fails to benefit or cure, you have your money back. You pay only for the good you get.

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Special offer to advertise our work Send us a photograph or tintype at once and we will make you a life-size crayon portrait absciutely free, \$100 forfeit to anyone not receiving crayon potent of a price of the offer. Address CRESCENT CRAYON CO. 103-110 Randolph St., UHICAGO, ILLA

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CARDS FOR 1893. SO PARENUM ARTICLES PREE. SO PREMIUM ARTICLES PREE. CADIZ, OBIO.







Fair Notes for the Fair Sex.

II.

WEITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HELEN M. WINSLOW.

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Macross a seven other sevents illustrated thinks were controlled to the control of the stem is composed to the sevent and the control of the stem is composed to the sevent and the control of the stem is composed to the sevent and the control of the stem is composed to the sevent and the control of the stem is composed to the sevent and the control of the sevent and the sevent and the control of the sevent and the control of the sevent and t

there was made by hand. One can easily believe that the exquisitely carved sandal-wood and ivory boxes are hand-work; but it is more difficult to realize that the beautiful silk fabrics and the heavy, velvety rugs and carpets are really the products of hand-looms. An astonishing variety of fabrics in silk and cotton are both printed and embroidered, and nothing like the tinsel and wax-decorated stuffs have ever been exhibited in this country. These wax-printed cloths are made by making a free-hand design on plain goods, with a stick dipped in melted lac and bees-wax and then sifting mica over it and letting it dry. They are very beautiful as well as very curious. Here, too, are India and Chuddah shawls so fine that although they are two yards square, they can be easily drawn through an ordinary sized finger-ring. Near by these exquisite fabrics, heaped together as if they were a job lot of calicoes, is a breech-loading cannon four hundred years old, and a match-lock gun fifteen feet long that is one-half as old.

A carved sandal-wood case for jewels and laces, less than a foot high, is offered for sale at \$500. It was made in Mysore and took four men six months to make it. A steel teapot inlaid with gold, silver and enamel in thousands of pieces, took all the time of one man two months, so that its price, \$30, is not high.

In the glass-works there is much to see beyond the mere common-place but interesting process of making glass vases and mugs. Upstairs, above the furnace where the smelting is going on, is a wheel nine feet in diameter, revolving twenty times a minute, where a man spins glass all day. A glass rod is exposed at one end to a blow-pipe flame. When the glass is melted it is attached in fine threads to the periphery of the wheel. The position of the melting glass is changed every minute until the broad wheel is full and then it is stopped. The glass is cut and taken off and made into short lengths, perhaps three and a half or four feet long. Then the girls at the looms take it. These latter are ha







wide, and is one of the finest buildings in the "White City." The walls of the main hall are covered with beautiful paintings—all done by women. Up in the first balcony, surrounded by British flags are four water-color paintings and two pencil sketches by the same illustrious personage. The latter are generally thought to be the best. One of them was done on a railway-train and represents a fox-terrier, belonging to Prince Henry of Battenburg, asleep on a rug.

But these are not all that Queen Victoria has contributed to the Woman's Building. In another section is a set of napkins made from flax which she spun. Two or three cot-covers crocheted of pink and white wool and lined with pink satin, done by the Princess of Teck, and a crocheted white wool vest fashioned by the Duchess of Teck, receive a good deal of attention, because they were worked by royal fingers.

Quantities of the most beautiful needlework and claborately painted china are so plentiful all woor has not already done so this summer. Those who have been there must have come tired." A little Welsh woman in a quaint silk gown with a tall gown with a tall



LOOK AT THE SIZE of the or-dinary pill. Think of all the trouble and dis-turbance that it

good? That is the case with Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. They're the smallest in size, the mildest in action, but the most thorough and far-reaching in results. They follow nature's methods, and they give help that lasts. Constipation, Indigestion, Billious Attacks, Sick and Billious Headaches, and all derangements of the liver, stomach and bowels are promptly relieved and permanently cured.

"If we can't cure your Catarrh, no matter how bad your case or of how long standing, we'll pay you \$500 in cash." That is what is promised by the proprietors of Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy. Doesn't it prove, better than any words could, that this is a remedy that cures Catarrh? Costs only 50 cents.

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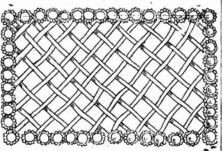
then try what you can do in the month that remains open for this competition.

"Whether my ideas win a prize or not, they are original and written up expressly for Comport. First, I am going to tell how I fixed up a bed-room with odd pieces of cast-off furniture. Every home accumulates old bedsteads, chairs, and bureaus. Ours had many articles which had gradually been pushed from the guest-chamber down through various rooms until they at last reposed in servant's rooms, or were stored away in the attic. I had long been wanting to fit up a room for myself which should express some individuality of its own, and should be unlike every other front bed-room on the street. I could not afford new furniture: brass bedsteads, silken canopies and modern luxuries were beyond my purse. But one night I had an idea. The next morning I prowled around servant's rooms and store-rooms and attics, and then, I began at once to fit up my room. There was an old-fashioned square bedstead with high head and foot-boards, in the girl's room. There was an old wooden rocker in the attic and a quaint old wash-stand in the stable-loft. There was an old wooden rocker in the kitchen and a battered steamer-chair tucked away in a closet. I got these together in my large corner room which had, previous to this, but very little furniture in it. I took up the old faded carpet and had it cleaned and consigned to the attic, keeping in the room the low sewing-table and rocker, and two straight-backed chairs which were already there. None of my pieces 'matched' with the rest; and all of them were more or less battered with time "How was I to reconcile them into a happy family?

"First, I went out and bought a two-pound pail of prepared white paint. Then I bought treather the stable and rocker and the trint of the stable and rocker and a state of the stable and the stable and

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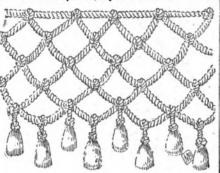


CORN-STALK FRET-WORK.

the attic and a quaint old wash-stand in the stable-loft. There was an old wooden rocker in the kitchen and a battered steamer-chair tucked away in a closet. I got these together in my large corner room which had, previous to this, but very little furniture in it. I took up the old faded carpet and had it cleaned and consigned to the attic, keeping in the room the low sewing-table and rocker, and two straight-backed chairs which were already there. None of my pieces 'matched' with the rest; and all of them were more or less battered with time "How was I to reconcile them into a happy family? "First, I went out and bought a two-pound pail of prepared white paint. Then I bought another pound of white enamel paint, a bottle of gilding, a coarse and a fine brush. And then

"Where sugar-cane or bamboo can be got that is, of course, very desirable. Even thin strips of ash or other pliable wood can be utilized in the same way and when painted or gilded, are very decorative.

"I have made another one for the arched doorway between the sitting-room and parlor. For the second I used new rope, knotting it together in a loose design, and leaving a fringe of rope-ends which I knotted once and then ravelled out. A frieze across the deep baywindow in the parlor, is just like it. One across



an alcove would be very effective. A pretty and novel effect may be produced by painting the rope with white enamel—after it is tied—and then gilding the knots.

"I came across a cheap, square wooden clock, in a second-hand store, recently. I found that it was a good time-keeper, and bought it for seventy-five cents. Then I took it home and treated it to a coat of white enamel, and painted in gilt letters across the front-door—below the face—this motto, 'Punctuality is the hinge of business,' and now it stands on the mantel shelf, opposite my bed. On showing my 'Comfort room' to a friend who is skilful with her brush, she determined to originate something too. She went home and got together all the odd pieces for a bed-room set, she could find. These she painted a pale robin's-egg blue. When this was dry, she got out her oil-paints and scattered wild-flowers over the entire set. Sprays of golden-rod grew on the commode and the foot-board. Trailing woodbine in autumn colors crept gracefully over the head-board and the front of the bureau; while at the side of the latter, a great 'bull-thistle' flourished arooss the front of the commode and were scattered here and there over the chairs; while a great cluster of them crowded into the corners of the old mirror that she had unearthed from somewhere. Although I would not own it to her, I will confess, privately, that her room somewhere. Although I would not own it to her, I will confess, privately, that her room somewhere. Although I would not own it to her, I will confess, privately, that her room was almost prettier than my own.

"Now, I am sure there are many readers of Comfort who could easily get up a 'Comfort room' of their own. It need not be just like mine, or like my friend's, but with these hints, a good many original and pleasant rooms might be gotten up. Old furniture, if it is of good hard wood, is again in style. Whoever has an old-fashioned four-posted bedstead and a mahogany burean can get up a beautiful room. It would be a pity to cover handsome maho

I am sure a great many of you can, if you will.

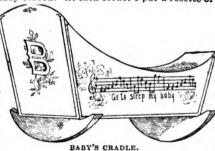
Now here is another letter which, although it is not so long, has some very original suggestions.

Is not so long, has some very original suggestions.

"Living way out here in the 'wild and woolly West,' I wondered, when my baby came, where I should get a cradle for her. A friend had sent her a baby-carriage from Albuquerque, which I used, at first, to put her in, for her naps. But the springs were so stiff that I feared the little brain would get too severely jolted; and so we began to think how we might invent a cradle. The 'guid-man' is very skilful with tools; and one rainy day, he set about making one. It was a doubtful experiment, I thought, but before night he had put together, with planed spruce boards, a capacious and easy cradle, shaped exactly like the low one my mother used to rock us children in. He had made the rockers smooth, and sandpapered them so that the motion was gentle and soothing. It was, however, only an unpainted cradle when he turned it over to me saying, 'There, I have done all I can with it; now you do the rest.'

have done all I can with it; now you do the rest."

"Then I set my wits to work. The little darwas such a dainty, rose-leaf baby, that nothing but the daintiest bed seemed fit for her. How was I to make it so, with the materials to be found on a new Mexican ranch? When I left my Eastern home, I brought with me a pair of old fine, delicate lace curtains, thinking they might come in play, sometime. Here was my chance. I sent to the nearest store and got three yards of pink cambric which I tacked carefully over the sides and bottom of the cradle. Then I put the lace on over this, leaving a double ruffle around the top, which I gathered with a puckering-string of pink baby-ribbon. At each corner I put a rosette of



the ribbon. A big pillow for the bottom of the cradle, a smaller and very soft one for the little head, and a crocheted afghan of pink wool, made as dainty a nest as the most fastidious baby could desire. It was so pretty that my husband was moved to add the frame-work for a canopy which I draped with lace, looped with pink ribbons; and which I found very useful in keeping drafts from the little sleeper.

Since then, I have thought of another way; and when the lace draperies get old and soiled, I shall remodel the cradle. It was made long enough for her use several years. When I rip the lace and cambric off, I shall paint the cradle white; and if I can get it, shall finish with a coat of white enamel. Then with colored paint, I shall write bars of music on the sides and front. Across the head I shall put an extract from that sweet German lullaby—'Sleep, baby, sleep.' On one side shall be the refrain of Fritz's lullaby song, 'Go to sleep my baby,' and on the other a strain from Sullivan's 'O, hush thee, my baby,' and finish across the footboard with a scrap from Tennyson's 'Sweet and

Low.* If I were skilful with my brush, I should make the notes of baby-faces; the rests, of sleeping babies; and mark off the bars with tiny feet. Various flowers might be worked in; and in fact, there is no end to the fanciful and original designs that might be thought of. Some mothers do not approve of cradles at all, but sling a hammock in a corner of the room, and use that instead.

"My house lacks cup-boards and closets enough for our use. I have partially remedied the fault by making a cup-board for the sitting-room from a large packing-box in which my goods came out here. I stood it on end, nailed cleats to the inside, at intervals, and fitted shelves to them. Then I stained the whole case with cherry-stain, at 15 cents a pint; and hung a sliding curtain, or portiere, of blue denim in front. I embroidered a design on a broad strip of the denim, right side out, and feather-stitched this band to the wrong side of the cloth for the portiere. You have no idea how ornamental it is; and the cup-board is a most useful place to keep odd pieces of crockery, magazines, and, indeed, almost everything that can be thought of. For a wardrobe in my room, we put three slats across one corner, into which were fastened plenty of hooks. Another denim portiere, similar to the one described, conceals the clothing which we keep there, besides making a very pretty corner to the room."

MRS. ALEX CONRAD,

Coolidge, New Mexico.

Now, who will send me a letter this month, as good as either of the foregoing?

Before closing I want to urge you all to read these columns more carefully. We are in frequent receipts of personal letters asking us to give prices, or particulars in regard to things which are as plainly given as is in our power. Often the editor knows no more about particulars which are not given, than any one else. Comport goes into over twelve hundred and twenty thousand letters of a private nature—on subjects which concern neither us or the bulk of our readers—to write every month, and this would entail on us the necess

3T. VITUS DANCE. One bottle Dr.M.M.Fenner's Specific always cures. Circular with cures. Fredonia, N.Y.

A N Illus. Book on Carpets and Curtains sent Free to any one. Lawrence, Butler & Benham, Columbus, O.

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will knit a stocking heel and toe is ten minutes. Will knit everything required in the household from homespun or factory, wool or cotton yarns. The most practical knither on the market. A child can operate it. Strong. Durable. Simple, Ragio Satisfaction guaranteed or no pay. Agents wanted. For particulars and sample work, address. J. E. GEARHART, Clearfield, Pa.

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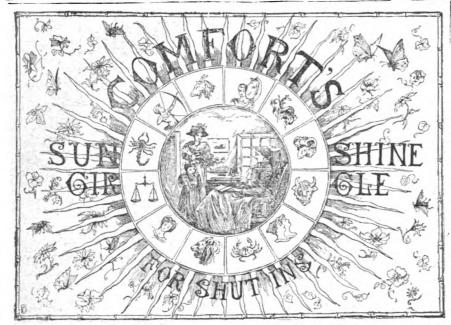
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is speak likewise. Address all orders,
KIRTLAND BROS. & CO., 62 Fulton St., N.Y.



Every Shut-In who will get up a club of five or more yearly subscribers for Comfort at twenty-five cents apiece, may send us ten cents for each subscriber, and keep the other fifteen for herself.

The only condition given is that you must furnish satisfactory proof that you are a Shut-In. Get your physician and clergyman, or two other responsible persons, to sign a statement saying they have known you (and how long), that you are an invalid, unable to work, and that you properly belong to the Shut-In Circle.

to work, and that you properly belong to the Shut-In Circie.

No club will be received of less than five subscribers, and these must all be sent at one time, together with the amount necessary for the club.

Money may be sent by money-order, postal-note, check, draft, registered-letter, or in postage stamps. Never sent money loose in a letter.

Try among your friends, neighbors and relatives. Your children at school or in factories, or your servant-girls among their friends can bring you names of new subscribers. Take it up seriously, as a matter of business, and you will succeed.

All correspondence for this department should be directed to Sunshine Circle, care of Comport, Augusta, Maine.

I must first of all express my pleasure that so large a number of our Shut-Ins have profited by the offer which stands at the head of this department and earned pocket money for themselves in this pleasant and easy way. There is an old saying much quoted, but too little heeded, "Help yourself and Heaven will help you." There are too many people in this world who want Heaven to do the whole of it. Too many who scorn small opportunities while waiting for larger ones that never come.

I should like to tell you of a plan the manag ing editor has hinted to me by which the Shut-lins might receive even greater benefit provided they show sufficient interest in the offer already made, but I fear I should be anticipating his wishes. It will depend, too, so entirely upon how much response is given to the present offer that it is as yet uncertain; so I hope you will all take hold and get up as many clubs for Comfort as you can, and thus help to bring about another opportunity for good, doing your own little part to the best of your ability. Comfort is kind and generous but Comfort cannot give everything for nothing—even "Heaven helps those who help

I have so many letters I hardly know where to begin, but I try to take them in order of arrival, excepting where some case seems un-

arrival, excepting where some case seems unusually pressing.

MABEL PERKINS, Warren, Maine, writes:

"I would be very pleased with blocks six inches square for a Friendship quilt, made of silk or velvet. Your paper is rightly named Comfort, for it gives help to many a Shut-In. I have been sick seven years and unable to walk three years. Am confined to my bed part of the time, but by the kindness of friends I have been able to get subscribers and am very pleased to think I have earned a little money, and sent Comfort to six new homes."

and sent Comfort to six new homes."

Miss Nanme L. Gailbreath, Okolona P. O.,
Jenerson Co., Ky., writes:
"I would like to correspond with a Shut-In
7 or 18 years old, in hopes I might cheer them
up a little. I am blessed with health but I am
very sorry for those who are not. I am 17
years old. May God bless all the Shut-Ins and
restore them to health if it be His will."

WHITE, Lansing, Mower Co., Minn.

writes:
"I have been a Shut-In two years, and have not been able to leave my bed. I am very fond of reading. Will some of the kind friends send me reading matter and pieces of cloth to make patchwork? as I do not have anything to do and am very lonesome."

and am very lonesome."

H. D. Gale, 183d St. and 3d Ave., New York, N. Y., "Home for Incurables," writes:

"This heading has a doleful sound, but it is only in sound. I wish all our Shut-Ins had as cheery a home. Our boa.ders average 175 in number, male and female. They are contemplating building an addition that will accommodate 100 more. I only heard of the place two days before coming. Have been here seven years. About nine years ago I was paralyzed in my line of business—theatrical—by a fall. I have crutches and stump about the spacious well-kept lawns, also I have a comfortable wheel chair, and in summer sit out under the shade trees. If any of the Shut-Ins would like an illustrated report of this interesting place, I will mail one on receipt of three cents in stamps to pay postage."

eents in stamps to pay postage."

EMERALD, writes:

"I have been an invalid for more than six years. Was not out of pain a minute for nearly two years. I thank God I am better now. I have had a strong desire for months to write to the Shat-Ins. I think caring for plants is better than fancy work for invalids. Geraniums require as little care as any I have tried. They endure cold well, and do not require much water. When you feel tired, nervous, cross, just go and look them all over, pick off the dead leaves, look for new branches and buds, and I assure you you will feel much better. I commenced with one that came to me in a bouquet, and now I have three windows full. They are a joy and comfort to me, and a pleasure to my neighbors and all passing by.

If we must suffer let us 'cease repining, as that will only make it worse, and get all the sun we can by trying to cheer and help others. We would not care for Heaven if it were all sunshine here."

snine here."

Nellie Allen, Box 92, West Burke, Vt., writes:
"I have been a subscriber to Comport for several years and have found much pleasure in reading its columns. I can very much sympathize with the Shut-Ins being an invalid myself. Will those who can send me shells for silk pieces, and write me? I will also exchange seeds and quilt pieces for mosses, minerals, and sea weed."

MRS. NETTIE HAVS, Boyceville, Wis., writes:

"What a splendid paper Comfort is getting to be. All of those prize stories are very interesting, and I like the letters and I read a great deal. I have to lie on my bed most of the time, but I crochet lace, and mats, and tidles and make paper flowers. I can make a lovely rose watch pocket, and I make other fancy articles which I give away, exchange, or sell if I get a chance. I would like pieces of silk, velvet, and worsted, also cancelled stamps. I think if Mrs. A. N. E. will get some sweet elder flowers and make a tea of them it will cure her of her hay fever. I wish I could send every Shut-In a bunch of my paper flowers to help cheer her room."

L. C. Smellage, Kentucky Town, Texas, writes:

help cheer her room."

L. C. Smellage, Kentucky Town, Texas, writes:
"I have been a Shut-In for nine years. I have chronic rheumatism and cannot walk or help myself, but I am able to write, and reading and writing are a great pleasure to me. I will send seed of the lovely prairie flowers to all who will send me self-addressed, stamped envelopes, also I will give general information regarding this country to all applicants. Kind regards to all the readers of Comfort."

Rhoda E. Baker. Bentleysville. Pa., writes to

RHODA E. BAKER, Bentleysville, Pa., writes to thank some unknown friend for sending her COMFORT. She has been an invalid nine years, cannot sit up at all, and has not been in a chair for four years. She will be 25 years the 16th of August. Will not the COMFORT readers give her a birthday party?

MBS. H. A. GREEN, Womer, Kansag, writes

her a birthday party?

MRS. H. A. GREEN, Womer, Kansas, writes that she has been confined to her room most of the time for six years, and not able to leave her bed, but is better now. Has received much benefit from Oxien. She writes a touching account of her mother's beautiful departure which took away from her all fear of death. This letter and the verses accompanying it we will forward to Mrs. A. Rose for whom it was particularly intended, as we have not space for it nour columns.

David Tomlinson Cable III

DAVID TOMLINSON, Cable, Ill., writes that he has been a Shut-In for a year. Is greatly pleased with COMFORT and would like to correspond with some of the friends.

respond with some of the friends.

"Ruth" writes an earnest letter we should be glad to use had we room, begging all Shut-Ins for the sake of those who care for them to try to be very patient and cheerful, to greet friends with a smile, and to think of others as much as possible. "I know it is hard," she says, "but it pays." Ruth is still in her teens and has been a Shut-In nearly five years.

Miss M Hamu. Troy. Ala, sends six new sub-

MISS M. HAMIL, Troy, Ala., sends six new subscribers and says she is very thankful to Comfort for the opportunity.

MES. MARTHA A. WHITSEY, 150 Chapel St., Norfolk, Va., earned \$1.65 quickly by sending eleven new subscribers. She has only begun she says, and promises to send more.

W. L. HOWARD, Alice P. O., Pickens Co., Ga., sends five subscribers and says, 'I hope to be able to send a larger list next time."

CLAUD SLOAN, Gallatin, Mo., sends nine sub-

OLLIE R. SHAEFFER, Ohl, Pa., sends ten subscribers.

OLIVE C. MILLS, Birds, Ill., sends five subscribers. She is blind, and wholly dependent on her friends for support, and very thankful for this chance to earn a little money.

Mrs. R. L. Terry, Spunk, L. I., N. Y., writes asking for cancelled samps and ends of worsted or anything to make hie brighter. Has been a nervous sufferer six years, and is very needy.

MRS. H. W. B., Kinde, Box 11, Huron Co., Mich., writes that she has been a Shut-In for almost 10 years. Writes lying down, but sits up a very little. Is thankful for letters or silk

That is all, dear friends I can give you this month. I hope you will not feel disappointed that your letters are not given in full. I suppose it is hardly possible for you to realize how many letters we receive, or how valuable is the space which the publishers of COMFORT give up to this department; nevertheless we extend a cordial welcome to all sick and suffering ones to enter our SUNSHINE CIRCLE and to let us hear from you, every one. I am sure you can receive great benefit from this department if you make use of all the opportunities it opens to you, but I am sorry to find that some of our unfortunate ones expect more of Comfort than it can reasonably give, and I must again remind you that this department cannot be used for free advertising, or for asking financial aid.

I have had a number of letters in which Longfellow's beautiful lines,

"Be still, sad heart! and cease repining:

"O fear not in a world like this, And thou shalt know e'er long, Know how sublime a thing it is To suffer and be strong."

Know how sublime a thing it is
To suffer and be strong."

It is indeed sublime to "suffer and be strong";
to bear our afflictions with such patience and
fortitude that our lives will be an example to
those who behold us. Oh, the possibilities that
lie in patient endurance! Who can tell how
great they are, or how far the influence of a
strong and patient sufferer may reach? And
then the reward. First of all the joy that comes
from victory over ourselves—the victory of the
spirit over the flesh; and afterward—"For our
light affliction which is but for a moment
worketh out for us a far more exceeding and
eternal weight of glory." Do not, dear friends,
call yourselves useless because you lie upon
beds of suffering. In a time when bereaved of
an almost idolized mother I was cast down with
grief and burdened with despairing thoughts, I
never shall forget the benefit I received from
occasional visits to a bedridden sufferer, dependent on visitors for all her comforts, excepting the greatest comfort of all, that which
comes from patient, cheerful resignation. Try
to see that your opportunities for usefulness
are not gone, only changed, and strive with all
the strength you are capable of to make the
most of them.

Sister Margaret.

DAVID KILLED GOLIAH

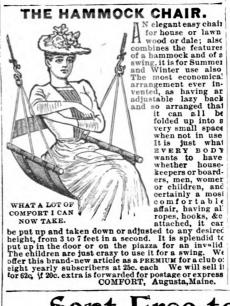
CATAPULT OR POCKET GUN.

So the idea is old but a perfect modern sling at this price has not been made before. This has great force and strength. Made of a solid piece of rubber, with cup to hold the projectile. Requires no powder, no caps; is neatly finished, durable, and can be carried in the pocket, as it weighs only three ounces. Will shoot shot or bullets with accuracy and force, and with a little practice will kill birds on the wing or bring down a squirrel from the highest tree. It is the best thing out for taxider-mists, as it will kill without spoiling game and makes no report. A boy can have more genuine pleasure in a day with a Catapult than with anything else made. The loop, strap, pocket and pulling tip are all moulded in one solid piece of the best kind of rubber. Enclose 15 cents for a three months subscription to "Comfort" and we send one free, postpaid. Boys make money selling them. One dozen sent for \$1.00. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Fun For The Boys.

gray, red, light, medium, or dark cents each, four for 25 cents, or 60 5 cents each, four for 15 cents, or dis or Whiskers—white, gray, red, own, and black. Price, Full Beard

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of the be

EUREKA COIN HOLDER.



It holds over \$5 of silver coin in half dollars, quarters, dimes and nickles. Small, compact and convenient. It will last for a lifetime. A person using one of these holders always has his coin in a compact shape. He can make change in one-half the time usually required, and avoid all liability of dropping or losing it. The merest movement of your thumb and finger pushes the desired coin into your hand, and another one of the same denomiation immediately takes its place. You can readily make change in winter without removing your gloves. The box is small and portable, the coins being arranged in the most compact manner possible, no superfluous space being wasted. Simple in its construction, and warranted never to get out of order. The above cut is about one-fourth size. It is made from strong metal, highly polished, and possesses every essential quality of a good pocket Coin-Holder. Price 15 cents, two for 25 cents, by mail, postpaid. Address

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We have 17,300 strong, perfect, Oriental, hand-tied, colored Hammocks, which for the next sixty days we shall place on the Free List, upon the conditions specified below. This will enable every one who is willing to render us a little service, to secure one absolutely free. These Hammocks are over 0 feet long, every one is tested to carry 300 lb. dead weight, is supplied with strong, white metal rings at the ends, and a strong cord along the entire length of siries. No home, picnic, camping, or outing party is complete without one. To recline in one of these health-giving articles in some cool nook after the day's work is done, or on a Sanday afternoon, is to repose in the lap of inxury.

Now to every one who will get up a club of six subscribers for Compared 255 center very correct.

Now to every one who will get up a club of six subscribers for Comfort at 25 cents per year, each in advance, we will send one of these Hammocks FREE, we paying all express and mailing charges. By showing a copy of Comfort to your neighbors, friends, and xequaintances, you can easily get up a club in one evening; for COMFORT, with its many improvements and new, original, copyrighted departments, now needs only to be seen to be appreciated. To those who do not care to go to the trouble of getting a club, we will send COMFORT for one year, together with one of these Hammocks all express and mailing charges paid by us \upon receipt of one dollar.





OW is the time for picnics and out-of-door parties of all sorts, and the question "What shall we carry?" is in order. The usual pionic lunch consists of thick sandwiches, made with corned beef or ham, and a quantity of cake and doughnuts. The children eat all the time, and the grown people most of the time; then they all return home very tired, cross, and dyspeptic, and wonder why their outing did not do them any good.

In the first place it is of the utmost importance to have good sandwiches. There is an art in making a sandwich just as there is an art in doing anything well, and very few women have acquired that art. The bread must be just right; not slack-baked, above all things, neither dry enough to be like sawdust. The slices thin, the crusts pared off and saved for some of the numerous purposes to which good house are nicely buttered with the very best butter, there are other things besides corned beef and ham that can be put between them, and I will suggest a few of them to you:

CHICKEN SANDWICHES.

Simmer a fowl until tender, in water enough to cover it; take out all the bones, chop the meat fine,

Simmer a fowl until tender, in water enough to cover it; take out all the bones, chop the meat fine, season it while hot with salt, a little butter, and a very little white pepper, moisten it with the liquor it was boiled in, turn out into a square, bright tin pan, and when it is cold it can be cut into nice slices for except the cold.

VEAL SANDWICHES.

Chop fine three pounds of lean veal, add one-half cup of fine bread crumbs, three eggs, salt, pepper, and any seasoning to taste; mix thoroughly and bake three hours in a slow oven. When cold slice for sandwiches.

CHEESE SANDWICHES.

Work together one cup of grated cheese, one-half cup of melted butter, and one-quarter of a cup of cream; season with sait, pepper, and a little mustard if liked; when it is a smooth paste, spread slices of bread with it for sandwiches.

BEEF SANDWICHES.

BEEF SANDWICHES.

Take two parts butter and one part French mustard, with a little salt: spread one slice of bread with this preparation, and the other with plain butter; place between the slices braised beef or tongue, cut thin. Other sandwiches are made by grating hard-boiled eggs carefully upon buttered slices of bread, then sprinkling lightly with salt and pepper. Some people like German or bologna sausage sliced thin, also sardines, and cold flaked saimon. Slices of ripe tomato sprinkled lightly with vinegar, salt, and pepper, make appetizing sandwiches for a hot day; so, also, does cottage cheese, which is very good placed in slices between square graham wafers and seasoned with salt and a little red pepper. Very rare beefsteak or roast beef chopped fine make the best sandwiches for people with delicate digestions.



A very pretty idea for a picnic lunch or a garden party is to cut in halves, lengthwise, finger rolls, bread sticks, or the Vienna rolls, take out the soft part of the roll, butter the shell, fill with any preparation of chopped meat, chicken, or egg, then tie the halves together with different colored baby ribbons. Another attractive dish may be made with eggs boiled hard in the manner suggested in last month's Comport, the shells removed, the egg cut into halves and the volks rubbed smooth with cream or melted butter, then well seasoned, rolled into balls and returned to their places, the white parts placed together and little squares of tissue paper with fringed ends twisted lightly about each egg. They can be served in a rustic basket, or on a plate covered with lettuce leaves.

It is an excellent plan to carry plenty of fruit of such kind as is seasonable. Fruit is far better than eake. If the children must have cake carry a nice light berry cake. Here is a simple recipe for one:

BERRY CAKE.

One-half cup of sugar creamed with butter the size of an egg; one egg, (two if you like) one cup of sweet milk, flour enough to make a stiff batter. Before adding the flour sift into it while dry two heaping teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Finally, add one pint of berries dredged with a little flour, Bake in a long shallow tin and cut in squares; or bake in muffin rings, if preferred. When cool, split and butter, and both children and adults will enjoy this addition to their sunch

uncn
Another novel and agreeable addition which will be
Change from the ever-appearing cake is in the form
of little turnovers, and is

BANBURY PIES.

Chop one cup of raisins and a piece of citron the size of a wainut; mix thoroughly with one egg the juice, pulp, and a little of the grated peel of one lemon, and one-half cup of sugar. Bake in small turnover pies, brushing the tops with one tablespoonful of milk, into which one teaspoonful of sugar is dissolved. This rule makes seven pies. In our own family they are liked better when made without any sugar.

The same lunch that is served for a picnic might in the hot weather often be prepared in the cool of the morning and served for a home lunch when the man of the house is away. It is the men in the house who make the work; the women could slide easily through the summer if it were not for the hot dinners; yet it is a lamentable fact that not one woman out of a hundred has the faculty of making her housework as easy as it might be made. A woman to do this must have natural faculty—what the old-fashioned people called gumption—and she must be progressive.

Take, for instance, the matter of kerosene and gas stoves. Everybody cannot have a gas stove, but we can scarcely find a woman who cannot, if she will, have a kerosene stove. I have had them in use in my house in the summer season for ten years or more, and although our kitchen is large and well supplied with windows, I should consider it nothing short of cruelty for me to ask my maid-of-all-work to use the kitchen range when I can make her life so much pleasanter by giving her this relief from heat; yet there are women doing their own work who swelter over the hot stove, and heat the whole house with a kitchen fire either because they are not progressive, or because they are so unfortunate as to have a selfish husband who will not allow them this needed comfort.

fort. This summer



or because they are so unfortunate as to have a selfish husband who will not allow them this needed comfort.

This summer our large kerosene stove gave out, it had served us long and well, and a new one was necessary. He whom I call my "betterseven-eights" proposed that instead of buy ing another large one we should buy one of a medium size and another smail one. I took his advice (experience has taught me its value) and bought one with three burners and another with two burners. I already own ed another two burners, so I am now the owner of three kerosene stoves, and all of them could be set at one time on our kitchen table.

I at first feared the three burner would not be large enough to do all I required of it, but I find the oven contains easily two loaves of bread and one pan of biscuits and bakes them splendidly; also it will roast a fowl, or a leg of lamb, or a good-sized piece of bef as well as our range oven. The advantages of the small stoves over one large kerosene range are that they are more easily handled, less trouble to keep in order, and often one of them will do all the work needed, thus saving heat and oil.

The cost of my three-burner with oven was \$4.80; the two-burner with small oven, (for breakfast or tea muffins) \$3.11; I bought an extension top for the two-burner for 70 cents which I find I can use on the three-burner also, though not quite aft. There is an extension top for the three-burner costing \$1.20, but I have not yet felt the need of it. It is very seldom with these two stoves there is any need for our third indeed, I do not know that there has been any need for it at all, but one reason for this is another addition to our summer outfit which I consider an invaluable one, that is a steam cooker.

This most valuable invention, which may be used on a gas, kero-



This most valuable invention, which may be used on a gas, kerosene, or coal stove, has three compartments above the part containing the water, and one can use only one of them, or as many as required. The covers are tight fitting so no steam can escape, and meats, vegetables, cereals, and puddings are superior when steamed in this way.

when steamed in this way.
With the aid of a steam cooker the following dinner can easily be prepared on a hot summer day: Tomato bisque, boiled (steamed) fowl with white sauce, stringed beans, as paragus, mashed potato, steamed custards.

This all can be done on the little two-burner kero-sene stove, and on the three-burner, meanwhile, the cook has put on the extension top. On one side of it is a kettle of boiling water, on the other a porcelain-lined kettle in which she is making the tomato bisque. I have snech a good recipe for this I must give it right here:

TOMATO BISQUE.

Put one quart of stewed tomato and one pint of hot water in the kettle; when ready to boil add one-half teaspoonful of soda; after it foams up, strain, pour back in the kettle, thicken with one tablespoonful of flour, add one tablespoonful of butter, one teaspoonful of salt, and a little pepper, and serve with crackers split and crisped in the small oven which can be put on the stove a few minutes for that purpose.

pose.

The white sauce for the fowl can be made quickly while the soup is cooking, in this way: Rub together until it is a cream one heaping tablespoonful of flour and the same of butter, then pour on enough boiling water to make a creamy sauce, stirring well to prevent lumping. Set it inside the top of the teakettle ten minutes, or boil up on the stove just long enough to cook the flour.

This dinner, which can be varied to suit the taste of

the family, prepared by the aid of a steam cooker and a kerosene stove, requires very little care, and there is no suffering from heat. You will find it pays in the end to surround yourself with the conveniences of life. It is a duty every woman owes to herself to study the improvements in methods of cooking, and in all cooking utensils; and it is the bounden duty of every husband to provide his wife with these aids to health, comfort, and long life.

The kerosene stoves, as I have shown you, are not expensive, and as to a steam cooker you can buy one for from \$1.50 to \$3.50, and if you once own one you will feel as if any price was not too great to pay for it. There are many steam cookers on the market now, but it being the fixed principle of Comfort to recommend nothing that has not been personally tested and approved in the Comfort kitchen I shall speak of those only which have given us the best results.

The Arnold Automatic Steam Cooker, of Wilmot

recommend nothing that has not been personally tested and approved in the COMPORT kitchen I shall speak of those only which have given us the best results.

The Arnold Automatic Steam Cooker, of Wilmot Castle & Co., Rochester N. Y., is a unique invention in this line possessing real merit. It is based upon scientific principles, one of its objects being to keep the direct action of the steam away from the article cooked by placing it in a tight kettle surrounded by the steam, which process of cooking is highly recommended by various physicians and scientific men. A variety of foods can be placed in this cooker at one time; they will require no watching, and will come out perfectly done and delicious in flavor.

Another steam cooker, which has become a prime favorite in the COMPORT kitchen, is the "Woman's Friend," made by A. Speirs, North Windham, Maine. As thousands of our readers have purchased, thoroughly tested, and publicly praised this perfect cooker, there remains nothing for me to say about it. Personally, I consider it indispensible in the kitchen—a labor-saving, money-saving, and time-saving invention which well deserves its name.

I hold that one of these steam cooker with a small kerosene stove is as good as a summer vacation for improving one's health and spirits.

Make your work as simple as possible, dear friends. Study how to systematize it, and simplify it, just as carefully as a good business man studies how to improve his methods of business, and you will be surprised to find how much labor you can save yourself. Don't keep in the old ruts if you can get out of them, and, above all things, don't sneer at "new-fangled notions," that are got up by bright inventors expressly to save your tired feet, and hands, and head, but give them atrial. Turn over a new leaf. Be progressive, and renew your strength and your to do.

Note.—I am constantly receiving letters from all parts of the country asking where the various arti-

to do.

NOTE.—I am constantly receiving letters from all parts of the country asking where the various articles mentioned in our Kitchen Chats—such as chafing dishes, egg coddlers, bread raisers, etc., can be procured. If the writers of these letters will carefully consult Comfort's advertising columns, they will find where everything needed in the kitchen can be bought.

O. M.

If Jane D. Jones of Boston, who sent a postal card to Comfort July 12, will send her full address, the editor would like to communicate with her.

HUNTING THE NORTH POLE.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

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THE seventh of last month, the Falcon, Lieut, Peary's expedition ship, left Boston harbor for the polar regions. It was a bot day and a lot of Eskimo dogs with wolf-like heads, and long woolly hair, lay panting on the deck. These dogs had drawn Lieut. Peary's siedge a thousand miles over the icecap of Greeniand the year before in the intense cold, when the thermometer was down to forty degrees below zero; but they could not stand up when the temperature was a hundred in the sun.

The Falcon was built to hunt seals, and for nearly thirty years has been knocked about in the ice of the Arctic Sea. She is a barque with square rigged masts, but runs by steam power also and makes a strange looking craft. Her sides are solid oak nearly two feet thick, and her bow has an iron ram to cut through the ice. She needs her strength, for she must be able to stand the bumps of floating icebergs as big as a World's Fair building, and must plow her way through

miles of frozen sea.

The Falcon will take Lieut, Peary, with his brave wife and little party of explorers, to Whale Sound on the northwestern coast of Greenland, and leave them for two years in the wilderness of snow and ice, to find the North Pole if they can. There are thirteen in the party, nearly all of them being like the leader, scientific mer.

The outfit which they carried seemed strangely out of place under the hot sun in Boston harbor. The beds are great bags made of fur, and when a man goes to sleep he crawls into his sleeping bag and closes the opening at the top. The curious visitors who crowded into the stuffy little cabin longed for a costume of mosquito netting, but instead of that they saw the fur clothing made of seal and reindeer skins, which Mr. and Mrs. Peary had worn on their last voyage.



her look like an Eskimo or a polar bear.
The supplies taken were enough to last three years.
Nearly everything was packed in cans. Among the
provisions were three tons of penmican made for the
Greeley expedition ten years ago. Pemmican is lean
beef ground to a powder and mixed with suct and
few currants. It will still be good for many years,
and will be the staff of life on the long sledge journeys.

few currants. It will still be good for many years, and will be the staff of life on the long sledge journeys.

Lieut. Peary takes a steam launch and a dynamo for making electric light, a portable house, an Eskimo canoe of walrus hide, besides rifles and ammunition, and all sorts of useful articles.

To transport the supplies to his winter camp he carries a drove of long-cared Colorado donkeys brought by express from the Rocky Mountains.

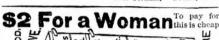
There are three explorers starting this year for the North Pole-Peary, the American, Nausen, the Norwegian, and Jackson, the Englishman. In the last one hundred years a great many ships and a great many brave men have passed the Arctic circle, and been lost in the frozen seas, yet very little advance has been made. In 1770, Hudson reached 80 degrees of north latitude, and in over one hundred years since then, the highest record is only a little over 83 degrees, which was made by two members of the Greeley expedition.

From this point an express train could travel the distance to the North Pole in ten hours; for icetravelers it will be the work of months if it is ever accomplished.

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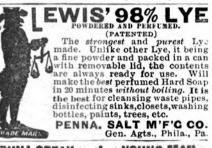
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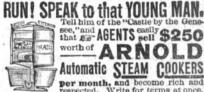


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The lucky stone for August is the Sardonyx which is said to insure conjugal felicity.

According to an English astrologer, the lucky days for August are the 7th, 8th, 9th, 11th, 14th, 17th, 16th, 20th, 22nd, 24th; unlucky days: 4th, 5. h, 12th, 18th, 19th, 21st, 25th, 26th, 28th and

We present our readers in this issue with another entertaining letter from the World's Fair. It will be of especial interest to the "fair sex." as it contains an account of the Woman's Congress held at Chicago in confunction with the exposition, and before which Comfort's special correspondent read a paper.

The American nation has made rapid strides in all things pertaining to art; but during this, its Columbian year, it has had an opportunity to discover that it still has much to learn. For example: no foreign ship that has spread its bunting or illuminated its yards in American ports in honor of our various celebrations, but has given the native men-of-war points on decorative possibilities. This is especially true of the English ships at the naval parade in NewYork Harbor, and of the two Russian ships that assisted in the harbor at Boston, Massachusetts, in the celebration of Independence day. Luckily we are a great people for profiting by experience, and are never above taking lessons wherever we find them.

Of all the months in the year, August is the one in which residents of the States feel the greatest inclination to loaf. There is something in the air, in the sky, in all Nature that invites man in August to rest his body and his soul. At no time, therefore, is a good story so welcome. Comfort has borne this in mind, and hopes that by the sea, under the fragrant pine trees, on the vine-clad veranda, or in the restful evening after hours of sight-seeing at the Fair-at home or abroad, wherever it finds its millions of readers, it may succeed in giving them a few quiet hours of entertainment.

The Massachusetts Criminal Court has added another to the list of famous trials that have failed in the attempt to unravel the mystery of a horrible murder.

The Borden trial at New Bedford will rank in history as one of the most famous and infamous court proceedings of its kind. Its issue has left Lizzie Borden a free woman in the eves of the law, but it has left the Fall River police with the unenviable reputation of having devoted themselves to the task of convicting a woman rather than to that of discovering the real criminal.

Hereafter the Fall River police will be synonymous with bungling and unskilful service. Eight months, spent in building up their case, during which individual advancement was the order of the day, and an innocent woman laid in jail awaiting their pleasure, saw the case go before the bench without a shred of new evidence, and with nothing to corroborate the suspicions by which Lizzie Borden had been indicted.

It is to be hoped-that few states in the Union have men of so little head, and so little princinosing as guardians of the safety of the community, and as protectors of the rights of

All the world loves a lover, and when it is a royal lover interest is the more surely world

Last month was memorable in England for the wedding of the direct heir to the throne and the princess May of Teck.

While it is an established fact that England. with all its democratic notions, provides liberally for its royal family, still in the wedding outfit of the royal bride was a suggestive article-a handsome nickle-plated typewriter. Could this have been intended as a hint to the royal princess that, as a protection against the chances of political evolution, it might be safe for her to equip herself as a "bread-winner," as well as to acquire a knowledge of court etiquette? Stranger things and more unlikely things have happened!

For the honor of the young wife of the Prince of Wales' son, it is fair to state, however, that she is more self reliant and better able to do for herself than many a daughter of a rich

father in the democratic United States. Her example of thrift and her housewifely knowledge are her best titles to the love and respect of the nation over which she may yet queen it.

In these days of intense heat it is very refreshing even to read of Lieut. Peary's Arctic exploration plans. While the most civilized parts of the world are panting with the heat, the venturesome lieutenant, accompanied by his brave little wife, and his small band of excitement seeking men, is on his way to the regions below zero in search of geographical knowledge about Greenland, and to casually look for the North Pole, and the much talked of North-west Passage.

It is true that ordinary people often wonder what use would be made of the North Pole if it should be located, and who will travel by the North-west Passage if it ever is found. The way in the past has been strewn with the bones of brave discoverers who have lain down and died while occupied in the search. But such is the advance made by science that the trip is to-day much less dangerous than it used to be. In fact, Lieut. Peary has a chance of returning safely as he did from his first trip after a sojourn in the land of sunless days, and with a record of a second residence there if of nothing else.

In the meantime, it may be that by the time the North-west Passage is discovered science may have advanced so far as to have easy means at hand for rescuing it from its present terrors, and possibly, even, of steam-heating it.

In any case, the passage of the doughty Falcon and its crew—a motley crowd of men and beasts that makes one think instinctively of the famous craft that came to rest on Mt. Ararat-will be followed with interest and curiosity by all the world. In another part of the issue of Comfort will be found a description of the outfit of this interesting ship.

The horrors of Siberian convict life have for years thrilled the civilized world; and many writers of late, have exposed the cruel practices of the Russian government which condemns its prisoners into exile. It has been recently announced that hereafter the Czar and his officers will send convicts to the island of Saghalien, instead of to Siberia. This is not the first time the Russian government has thought of this scheme; for they established a penal colony at Saghalien in 1873.

Where is Saghalien?

It is a long, narrow island near the coast of Siberia and north of Japan. There is not a safe harbor anywhere on its coast, and the largest bays are so shallow that sea-vessels cannot come within a mile of the shore. So it is probably as safe a place to put their convicts as the very heart of Siberia. The island belongs to Russia, and there appears to be no reason why that government cannot go on practicing there the cruelties which have made their penal system celebrated all over the earth. There are plenty of coal mines on the 24,560 square miles of Saghalien, and convicts who are allowed to escape penal servitude in Siberia are not likely to find an easier lot in Saghalien.

The cruelties practiced by the Russians re-call the famous "Black Hole of Calcutta." This was a small close dungeon in Fort William, Calcutta. After the capture of that city by the natives in 1756, the whole British garrison of 146 men were thrown into this strongly barred room only 18 feet square, and locked in for the night.

Their sufferings during the night were terrible, both from thirst and suffocation. In the morning only 23 were taken out alive.

The "Black Hole" is now used for storage; and an obelisk has been erected nearby to the memory of the English soldiers who perished so miserably there. This was 150 years ago. The horrors of Siberian convict-life are things of to-day. It may well be asked: is the world advancing?

ODDITIES.

An ordinary piano contains a mile of wire. Edison is getting up a magnetic ore-separator.

The United States makes 65,000 hats every day. Great Britain owns just one-half of all the ocean ships. Seventy million people in Europe wear wooden

A race-horse clears from twenty to twenty-four feet at a single bound. Dresses and window curtains are now made in Austria from spun glass.

Immigrants enough to people an empire have landed

our shores since 1856.

Eighteen hundred and fifty towns in this country are lighted by electricity.

A new glass is being perfected in Germany that will be impervious to heat.

"Devil's Mountain," north of Montreat, is gradually sinking into the earth.

There are over 250,000 school-houses, and 15,000,000 school-children in this country.

There were 134,000 double eagles coined at the United States mint in February alone.

The oldest violin in the world dates back to 3000 B.C., and was found in an Egyptian tomb.

It is estimated that a birth takes place every three minutes in London and a death every five.

The first nickel steel crank ever cast in this coun-y was recently turned out at Bethlehem, Pa.

The amount of money in circulation in the United States at the present time is nearly \$2,000,000,000. The Chinese custom of foot-binding is said to have originated with a club-footed Celestial princess.

There are five printing presses, and ten news-papers and eight magazines published in Iceland. A sewing-machine used in Leeds, England, for sewing cotton belting, weighs three and one-half tons.
One hundred years ago the entire population of the United States was but 3,929,212; to-day is is 65,000,000.
There are fifty-one thousand breweries in the world, a little over one-half of them being in Germany.

many.

The new Simplon tunnel running from Isela, Italy to Brieg, Switzerland, will be twelve and one-half miles long.

MY LAST JUMP.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY J. WILSON PLUMMER.

Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.

TOOK my first voyage in the clouds with a friend of mine, an æronaut, out of pure TOOK my first voyage in the clouds with a friend of mine, an æronaut, out of pure bravado, and, for the excitement of the thing. I took it up for my profession, and had followed it for seventeen years, doing parachute ju mp in ng, principally, the last five, because it paid better, although more dangerous than ordinary balloon ascensions.

It was in the fall of 184 that I took my last jump.

It was in the fall of ISSA that I took my last jump.

I was at that time traveling in the eastern part of Ohio, and had and one at a circus in Brownfield.

The evening of the latter, I was sitting in the hotel with Mr. Pittman, the circus manager, when our conversation turned on parachute jumping, and high jumps.

"How high could you be hired to jump?" presently asked Mr. Pittman.

"Well," I replied, jokingly, "that depends on the sum. I suppose I could go five thousand feet for a third as many dollars."

The bystanders laughed, but Mr. Pittman looked in earnest when he said. "I'll take you for that Saturday, in Honesville, where we show next."

I tried to convince him that my proposition was only a joke, but he would not have it that way, and argued so long and eloquently, that I finally gave my consent, though reluctantly, to do my best, providing the weather was favorable.

It was Thursday when I made the agreement,

ble.
It was Thursday when I made the agreement, and it took all that day to pack up my balloon, go over the ropes and strengthen the hoop of my parachute, which I had wrenched the day before. For the purpose of helping me about my ascensions, I had hired a young man named Parker. He had made a number of trips with me, and said he liked the business, so I kept nim.

Parker. He had made a number of trips with me, and said he liked the business, so I kept him.

Once or twice lately I had noticed him staring in a queer way at the balloon as it lay on the grass, and one time, becoming impatient at his apparent idleness, I spoke out rather sharp to him: "Parker, don't wear that balloon out looking at it."

He turned on me with a strange glitter in his eyes and said: "Professor, that balloon would make a nice bird."

I did not think at the time, as I was busy, that it was an odd remark, but afterward remembered how he looked when he said it.

We arrived in Honesville Saturday morning, and lost no time in getting to the grounds and preparing for my jump, Parker seeing to the filling of the balloon, and I looking to my trapeze and parachute. I always prided myself on not growing careless with experience, as some men do who fill dangerous vocations, but tried every rope and looked at every knot the same as when I made my first jump.

The circus tents were already up, and an immense crowd were jostling each other eager to see the sights, for a circus and a balloon were a rare treat for the country people.

Blazing posters adorned the barns and fences, picturing a man hanging by his toes to a trapeze "many thousand feet from the earth." The circus was before the balloon ascension, and after the show the crowd came flocking around, staring open-mouthed at the big white balloon tugging at the ropes. We were showing on a level piece of ground just outside the town.

In a short time Mr. Pittman announced everything in readiness. I took the trapeze in

ing on a level piece of ground just outside the town.

In a short time Mr. Pittman announced everything in readiness. I took the trapeze in both hands. Parker got into the basket and I was all ready to give the word to the men holding the ropes to let go, when Parker deliberately climbed down from the basket and went into a tent near by, appearing a moment later with two revolvers. I was slightly surprised at his actions, although at the time I attributed it to the natural nervousness any one would feel, not being much used to ærial journeys.

Wondering what use he could have for revolvers, I asked him what he was going to do with them. He replied that he wanted to celebrate our departure a little.

Thinking that all right I let it pass out of my mind, and he climbed back into the car.

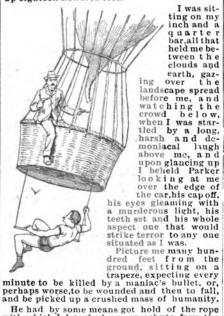
I took a seat once more on the trapeze, waved the crowd back and shouted:

"All ready."

The balloon swayed back and forth and seemed impatient to be off.

"Let go," I cried, and the men all dropping the ropes together, up we went with a rush, the crowd cheering lustily, which grew fainter as the distance increased.

We rose rapidly, and in a few moments were up eighteen hundred feet.



ting on my quarter bar, all that held me be-tween the clouds and earth, gaz-over the landscape spread before me, and watching the crowd below,

when I was star-tled by a long, harsh and de-moniacal lungh

He had by some means got hold of the rope with which I detached my parachute from the balloon, so I was completely in his power.

While I was speculating on what to do, I heard a report, and whiz went a bullet close to my head. Looking up I saw Parker sitting on the edge of the basket with one leg hanging over, a revolver in each hand, and shouting at the top of his voice.

Seeing me watching him, he stepped back into the basket, and, leaning far down toward me said in an exultant tone, "You were the master of this bird once, now I am. I am going to kill you. I am going to cut the ropes that hold this basket, tie them together and sail.

away, while you will go down, down, down."

While he was talking he had pulled out a knife and was at work on the ropes. As fast as he cut one he would tie its end to another, and so on around the dozen or fifteen ropes that held the car. After he had cut all but three or four, he worked himself into the network of ropes thus formed, grasped the valve rope and called out to me some mad ravings which I did not understand.

The basket was tipping dangerously, sliding the ballast into one corner and spilling some out. I saw that when the basket should free itself of the balloon it would fall on me and prevent the parachute from opening.

I drew my sheath knife to cut myself clear of the car if I could.

There were only two more ropes to cut. He reached one and cut it, but before he could reach the other it broke, and with a lurch the basket came crashing down on me.

After that it seemed like a bad dream. I remember seeing things falling, and of slashing wildly with my knife in the hope of freeing the parachute. We were falling with fearful velocity, and how I held on I never could tell.

I must have cut the rope that held the car to the parachute, for it suddenly opened, nearly unseating me.

The decreased speed brought me to my senses, and looking up I could see the balloon far up in the air, bottom up. I came down in a few minutes near a farm house, but completely worn out.

It took four days for me to get over the nervous shock I received and when I sot out I

minutes near a farm house, worn out.

It took four days for me to get over the nervous shock I received, and when I got out I organized a searching party; and two days later we found poor Parker, crushed beyond human semblance, with a bullet hole in his breast.

His revolver had probably been accidentally discharged in his attempt to keep his balance in the air, the bullet taking effect on himself.

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FOOT NOTES.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT, BY SARA LEE BULLOCK.

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MAY all of us wish we could be in some other person's shoes, but the man who would venture to wear the world's shoes must have a queershaped foot, or else find himself with several "misfits" on his hands.

We are used to the ordinary black leather shoes, of the same general cut, high or low, that have been worn for generations back.

We can even grow accustomed to the tan-colored, blue, red and white low shoes which the fashionable young men and women of the period are affecting. But the curious footgear which was collected in the Shoe and Leather Building at the World's Fair, develop some astonishing varieties and lead the observer to believe that fashion is stranger than fiction.

In the Transvaal the belle of her native village wears a tuft of jungle grass tied of firmly around her ankle. The Turks wear red morocco shoes turned up, at the toe like a pruning hook, over light-colored stockings. Their dancing girls wear embroidered slippers with filagree work in gold and silver outlined over their arched insteps. Their most common shoe, however, has heels on both ends, so to speak, and the wearer seems to be walking on stilts.

The most elaborate articles of footwear to be found at the Fair are the highly-polished boots worn by the German carely men. They reach

stilts.

The most elaborate articles of footwear to be found at the Fair are the highly-polished boots worn by the German cavalrymen. They reach nearly to the knee and are slashed from front to back. Around the calf of the leg they fit rather tightly. A bright spur jingles at each seel.



to back. Around the calf of the leg they fit rather tightly. A bright spur jingles at each neel.

The padded Chinese shoe comes in all colors with every sort of grotesque ornament. The sole is flat and an inch thick. It is pointed at both ends so that it is difficult to tell from a Chinaman's tracks which way he has been traveling. The top of the slipper is so thick with fancy work that it gives the celestial foot a gonty and swollen look, and also makes it appear much shorter than it really is, as though the toes had been chopped off.

The Soudanese slipper is the most shiftless thing that a man ever put on his foot. It is simply a leather sole and a toe. These represent the triumph of laziness. The Soudan citizen Soudanese Slipper walks into his slipper in the morning and then in the evening backs out. Every time he takes a step he lifts his heel away from the sole and it seems morally certain that he will lose the slipper. Any uncultured American who started for a promenade wearing such things would be in his stocking feet before he proceeded ten steps, but there is a certain trick of elevating the toe at each step, which makes the Soudanese safe. The Javanese manage to get along without any kind of footwear, except a thin wooden sandal. This is fastened to the foot by thongs coming up between the toes and reaching back over the instep.

The Algerians wear leather leggings, which are stamped with various designs and come

instep.

The Algerians wear leather leggings, which are stamped with various designs and come down closely against the black shoes.

"Lo, the poor, Indian" wears beaded moccasins of buckskin, and his footprints suggest that some body has been traveling like a crab—sidewise.

A metal anklet is all the shoe the Dahomevite.

sidewise.

A metal anklet is all the shoe the Dahomeyite wants, and the South Sea Islanders content themselves with galoshes.

According to the Russian idea the boots must be wrinkled in order to be in style. The leather looks as though the man who owns them had been out in wet weather. They wear short boots into which are stuffed their loose and baggy trousers. The Russian women wear dainty shoes and slippers, often edged with fur.

dainty shoes and slippers, often edged with fur.

In Switzerland, the glacier-climbers wear shoes made of heavy, solid leather, and with soles covered with spikes like those of a base ball player.

In the exhibit at Chicago there are shoes for all kinds of weather-wooden clogs, with stilts attached, worn by Japanese tea-pickers in rainy weather, and straw mats worn on the feet of the natives of India, when the sun heats the pavements up to a blistering temperature, may be seen.

Next are straw sandels no longer than a

be seen.

Next are straw sandals no longer than a baby's slipper, which come from Kioto, Japan, where the young ladies wear-them. The Japanese have small feet and wear black cloth

ese have small feet and wear black cloth slippers.

Then there are flat cloth shoes with no soles and heels which protect the upper part of the feet of the water-carriers of Alexandria, Egypt.

And there are the shoes of the Esquimaux settlement which are of heavy undressed wal-tushide, attached to the thick frieze trousers which are worn above them. The Esquimaux who jumps out of bed in a hurry in the morning, gets into his boots and trousers at one bound.

In many parts of Europe



In many parts of Europe wooden sabots are worn by the common people. In Holland all the common people wear wooden shoes, which are called sabots. Even the little children are weighted down with these clumsy affairs on their tiny feet. It is quite a sight to see a party of emigrants from Holland landing at Castle Garden, in New York.

feet. It is quite a sight to see a party of emigrants from Holland landing at Castle Garden, in New York.

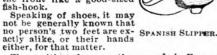
A few years ago when a party of Dutch emigrants came in, a young woman standing near the rail let her kid fall overboard with her two wooden shoes on. A man from a tug close by sprang into the water and after struggling in the waves for some time succeeded in saving the baby and restoring it to its mother's arms, who received it with great rejoicing. In the course of a few moments, however, she noticed the two little wooden shoes floating down stream; whereupon her joy was changed to grief again, and loud weeping which would not be comforted filled the air. A sabotless child was, in her opinion, little better than no child at all.

at all.

The English wear heavy hobnailed boots, even the women's shoes there being more clumsy than those of America.

In Spain the ladies wear fine satin slippers with pointed toes turned up at the front like a good-sized fish-hook.

Speaking of shoes, it may



The prettiest shoes are those made in France and America. In fact, one must look a good

while before finding anything daintier or in better taste than the trim, well-fitting boots and shoes worn right here.

And, so far as real comfort is concerned, there is perhaps nothing under the broad canopy of heaven that is so soothing to the sole as the easy-fitting, long-wearing, and good-looking shoe devised a few years ago by the ingenious Brockton, Massachusetts Yankee who, it is confidently asserted, worried the hair off his head in discovering "the bestest shoe for the leastest money."

WAYS TO SEE THE FAIR.

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They charge a uniform price of seventy-five cents

the Fair. They are well-posted in regard to every building on the grounds and no better guides can be asked for.

They charge a uniform price of seventy-five cents an hour.

Sometimes these boys have an easy day with what they call "soft jobs"—such as young, light and pretty maidens to wheel around; but at others, their burdens are heavy—as when they get a two hundred pound woman and must shove her around on a muddy day!

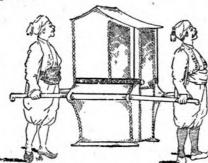
The Venetian gondolas with their native gondoliers have already been described and illustrated in Comfort. On the lagoon, as the artificial lake is called, there are plenty of steam-launches holding from ten to twenty people, and having a canopy top. These are not so picturesque nor so romantic as the gondolas but they get over the ground—or, rather, the water—much faster. A ride all over the lagoon by either method costs fifty cents and affords one of the finest ways to see all the main buildings and their beautiful grounds, as the lagoon foliows a winding course which takes it pretty well through the grounds, going under lovely arched bridges and past many a flowering bank.

But these are not all.

After you have taken the boat-ride on the lagoon, you will want to ride on the Intra-mural railway, an elevated road which skirts the entire Fair ground just inside the limits. This ride, which costs thirty cents for the entire trip, gives an entirely different idea of the World's Fair as a whole, and a new conception of many of its odd corners which might not be discovered otherwise. These cars are much like ordinary open horse-cars with cross-wise seate, except that the sides are encased with a baneling about three freet nign. The doors at each seat open mechanically when the car stops, and close again when it starts.

To obtain the prettiest view of the entire grounds, one should either go or come by the steamers which leave Van Buren Street for Jackson Park every fifteen minutes. The "White City" is nowhere else so imposing as from the steamboat deck within two miles of shore.

There is yet an



A SEDAN CHAIR.

A medieval, oriental way. There are Sedan chairs like those you read of in old books about India and other Eastern countries. They are square, wooden, box-like contrivances, cushioned and upholstered with bright colored stuffs, and carried by men in oriental costumes surmounted by a red fez. It is true the motion of these chairs is rather jerky and disagreeable; and they cost just the same as the modern, luxurious rolling-chairs. But you have the comfort of knowing that you are doing what you can do nowhere else, nowadays, in a thoroughly civilized country. And you can console yourself for the "jerkiness" by imagining you are a fine London lady of a century or two ago, attired in stiff and costly brocades, and on your way to a grand ball or dinnerparty.

party.

After all, the way which is more commonly adopted then all the others, is that by which the visitor is propelled on his own two feet.

The walking is still good at the World's Fair.

FACTS FOR FARMERS.

The toad is the best insect destroyer you can have. Give your horses water every ten miles on the road.

If your heas lay soft-shelled eggs, give them crushed bones with their food.

Non-bearing quince bushes should be thoroughly pruned to give them a new start. Blackberry bushes will bear the most fruit if not allowed to grow over four feet high.

All utensils used in butter-making should be kept sweet and clean by thoroughly scalding.

Make successive plantings of garden crops so that you may have fresh vegetables all summer.

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HINTS FOR WOMEN.

Grained wood-work is best cleaned with cold tea. Fish netting makes pretty and serviceable draperies in a country house.

A decoction of soap-wort roots is best to wash white serge or flannel with.

Good furniture polish is made of one-third turpen-tine and two-thirds sweet oil.

Stale crackers are improved by placing in a hot oven a few minutes before serving.

Soak mildewed linen in buttermilk over night, wash thoroughly, and dry in the open air.

A peck of fresh lime in a damp cellar, absorbs moisture and prevents malarious troubles.

Half a teaspoonful of sugar scattered over a dying tre is better than kerosene, and has no element of

Stand a wet umbrella on the handle to drain; otherwise, the water collecting at the center will rot

Ivory knife-handles that have grown yellow with age or careless usage may be whitened by rubbing with sand-paper.

A large rug of linen crash placed under the sewing machine will catch threads, clippings and cuttings, and save a deal of sweeping and dusting.

Scott can be castly reproved from a cornet when

Soot can be easily removed from a carpet, when freshly fallen, by scattering salt over it. The soot adheres to the salt and both can be lightly brushed off.

Kid gloves may be cleaned, when slightly soiled, with a small piece of oiled silk wound tightly about the finger, and rubbed vigorously over the surface of the glove.

Sachets of thin silk or cheese-cloth for the bottoms of bureau drawers, perfumed with arris or violet powder, lend a delicate perfume to a young lady's belongings.

Do not put a carpet on the dining-room floor. It holds dust and grease, and is impossible to keep clean and sweet. A bare floor with a large rug under the table is the most sensible and fashionable cus-

Mysterious rust-spots on clothes are caused by Prussian blue which is substituted for indigo in some kinds of laundry bluing. To test bluing, drop a piece of washing soda into a diluted mixture with cold water. If the compound turns to a reddish hue, Prussian blue has been used.

Sponge old black silk, to freshen it, with ammonia

and water; then go over it again with cold coffee, which brightens and removes all glossiness. Stretch the breadths on a padded table, or place under a heavy weight to dry, first pulling and smoothing with the hands. This process gives it a "natural body."

Dody."

The three essentials for a pleasant home interior are space, the opposite of crowd and clutter; form, the opposite of chaos and confusion; and color, the opposite of mourning black. This is the theory used by artists, decorators, and millionaires, and, in a modest way, may be put in practice by every Comport housewife.

Make pudding bags of heavy jean. Grease and dredge them with flour before using. When the pudding is put in, one-third extra space should be allowed for rising. The bag should be thoroughly washed with soap after using, rinsed in clear water and dried. Make vegetable bags of thin strong cheese-cloth.

and dried. Make vegetable bags of thin strong cheese-cloth.

It is quite fashionable, when a little newcomer arrives in a family, to send out birth "announcement cards." Two cards are used; one with the full baptismal name of the child, and, in the lower lethand corner, the date of its birth; the other, the mother's visiting-card, intimating that she is ready to receive visits of congratulation.

A set of pongee bags, lined with oiled silk are extremely useful for travelling. Make one each for hand mirror, soap, wash-cloth or sponge, and hairbursh and comb. A larger unlined one for the night dress, with a handkerchief-sachet big enough to hold an extra pair of gloves and a fresh veil is convenient. A bottle-bag, lined with oiled silk, is of great service. They are made plain or etched with fancy silks.

A bottle-bag, fined with offed silk, is of great service. They are made plain or etched with fancy silks.

Many women do not know that decorations over the door impart an effect of space to a room. A narrow shelf of wood over the dining-room door will sllow a rustle arrangement of roots, bird's nests, and similar shelf in a library may hold an williamed painting, a terra cotta vase at each end, and trophies of excursions into the woods. Plaster casts in large cities cost very little. If they are reproductions of master-pieces they add refinement to a room.

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One Regulation Size Differential Chart,
One Dozen Sheets Pattern Paper,
One Well-made Steel Tracing Wheel,
One Regulation Size Differential Chart,
One Dozen Sheets Pattern Paper,
One Well-made Steel Tracing Wheel,
It is a heavily mounted chart over two yards long and two feet wide, having the different measurements all lined out for all kinds of garments, with Bust Measures for 25 to 46 inches. You get the Bust Measure of the person you want to cut a garment for and that one being the ONLY measurement recalculated and drafted right on to the chart by experts who have made it a business for twenty years, and PERFORATIONS in the chart in show just where your size is to come by simply laying on a piece of common Paper and tracing along the line with a lead pencil. All you then have to do is to cut your goods by the pattern you have thus manufactured yourself—that is all there is to it. But remember, you will find everything on the chart in shape, style and build of garments you want to use, and if you have old wearing apparel you want to make over into stylish fits, you go by the same system in changing them.

It Costs no More to have a Stylish Fitting Galment than 2 poor one, and you actually save 50 per cent on goods by using our system, it has been studied down to such a fine point by experienced draughts—men. So it requires no mathematical calculations on your part at all (all other systems require a good deal), you just go by the plans all laid out for you. You will find it so SIMPLE, COMPLETE and PERFECT in all its patterns and departments that it can but be acknowledged to be a requisite in Every Family, while also others makes Every One a dressmaker in ten minutes. The regular price of charts alone is \$2.00.

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alone is \$2.90.

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The Haunts of the Eckland Place.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY MRS. E. S. N. RAYNER

Congright, 1893 by The Gannett & Morse Concern.

HAD just bought the place cheap on account of its being haunted, and was on my way home when I met old Sally Ponsonby.

She was tall and gaunt, with queer fierce black eyes; as she took off her sunbonnet and leaned up against a tree, she looked haggard and witchlike, with straggling white hair falling about her brown, wrinkled face.

"Well, Mr. Richards," said she, "I hyeard ver wuz er gwine ter buy ther ole Ecklin Place."

"I have bought it; don't you think it's a good bargain."

"Yes," she replied, looking me straight in the face, "e' buying what'll do yer no good is er good bargain."

"But I intend to live there."

"Thar's ben er good menny thet 'tended ter live thar, but they didn't do it; nur you won't nuther."

Her face worked convulsively as she said this, and I thought her terrible experience at this place had unnerved her.

"Well, we'll see," said I, starting my horse. But she s'opped me, laying her withered hand on my bridie.

"Mr. Richards, shorely yer will not resk yer wife

Mr. Richards, shorely yer will not resk yer wife

"Mr. Richards, shorely yer will not resk yer wife an' chillun in thet place."

"But they're not afraid."

"They've never 'sperienced any thing like ther sights and sounds that ha'nts thet air place er nights. Jest think uv 'em happening to be thar erlone some stormy dark night, an' dem air sights an' sounds er makin' uv thet ole place er heil upon ther yeth. An' jest think of them little chillun uv yurn bein' scart into spasms some night and maybe dyin' in convulsions!" she urged vehemently.

"You are very kind, Mrs. Ponsonby, to take such an interest in us; but we are not in the least afraid of the haunts."

"Yer'll change yer tune befere dem ha'nts is

of the haunta;"
"Yer'll change yer tune befere dem ha'nts is through wid yer," she retorted angrily, as she jerked on her sunbonnet and marched off.
"Strange that she should get so excited over my going to that place," I thought; and then I remembered her great trouble which people said had deranged her mind.
Ten years ago her only child, a weak-minded boy of eighteen, had been hanged for killing Mrs. Eckland.

land.

The prosecution claimed that Mrs. Eckland was talking with Jim Ponsonby about one of her sheep which his dog had killed. Hot words passed between them, and Ponsonby lifted a heavy stick he held in his hand, and dealt her a blow, from which she fell dead.

which his dog had killed. Hot words passed between them, and Ponsonby lifted a heavy stick he held in his hand, and dealt her a blow, from which she fell dead.

The heart-broken mother protested that Jim had raised the stick to point to where his dog had found the sheep outside of her premises. Just at that moment Mrs. Eckland had fallen in one of the "spells" she was subject to, and when they raised her, she was dead.

I had always thought Mrs. Ponsonby's story was true, and that Mrs. Eckland's "spell" was brought on by a fit of anger.

But Jim and his mother had neither money nor infuence, and he was condemned and executed.

The poor mother made desperate efforts to prove her son's innocence, and after he was condemned, journeyed on foot to the capital to obtain his pardon. Falling in this, she trudged home, exhausted and heart broken. She visited him daily carrying what poor delicacies her pitiful poverty could obtain; and remained with him every moment she could until the end. Even then, they had to tear her away by force. They hurried through the terrible work of hanging him; and hearing the heart-rending cries of the mother, who had broken wat down the still warm body and hurried it to the grave they had dug. There they left it to the distracted mother who had begged to be allowed to fill up the grave alone. To this they readily consented, the most hardened among them being unable to bear the sight of her terrible grief.

After Jim's execution Sally Ponsonby disappeared, and it was supposed she had killed herself. But, after a time, she was again seen creening about he reabin with the look of a hunted animal in her wild black eyes, constantly looking around as if afraid of being watched and pursued.

This happened ten years ago; and since then the Eckland House had been vacant, tenant after tenant having fied from its fearful sights and sounds.

The afternoon of the day we moved in, I was siting on the porch resting and thinking of the strange tive about sundown; a flash of light fell upon the prove resti

fright.

This conduct of old Tray's gave me a queer turn, but in a few minutes the appartition disappeared altogether, and I went in the house.

After dark I came out on the porch, and while sitting still, thinking of my strange ghost, I caught a gleam of something white out in the yard; and out of the thick shrubbery glided a tall figure all in white moving slowly toward the gate.

I felt myself grow cold as I watched it, but I followed stealthily.



The phantom seemed to go straight through the losed gate, and disappeared among the trees on the

I hurried to the spot, but finding nothing returned the house, where my household were assembled on

The porch.
"Dat's ole Miss Ecklin's sperrit," whispered the cook through her chattering teeth. "She's gwine out yonder to watch Jim Ponsonby's sperrit hangin' fum dat ar ole sycamore tree."

While she was speaking the moon came up from behind the hill, and le! there in the clump of trees where the figure in white had disappeared, the body of the hanged man was dangling to and fro in the wind!

My horrified family ran screaming into the house, and shut the door. Calling up my nerve I went to avestigate.

When I came to the clump of trees there wa Jothing to be seen save the moonlight shimmerin Jown through the leaves.

It was a long time before my terrified family could be quieted and sent to bed. I sat up so long puzzling

over these apparitions that it was nearly day when I dozed off in my chair. I was awakened by the most blood curdling shrieks I was awakened human ear. They filled the air with cutting shrillness, like the cries of some one in exercicating agony.

with cutting shriliness, like the cries of some one accordanting agony.

I sprang up and ran to the children's room thinking something dreadful had happened there. As I reached the door I heard my wife calling me in terrified tones. I found the children trembling and sobbing in fright, and my youngest, a delicate little girl, struggling in my wife's arms, wild and uncontrollable in her terror.

in her terror.
"I believe she will go into convulsions," cried my

wife.

I took the little thing and soothed her as best I could in the general uproar. For, although the fearful screaming had ceased it was followed by horrible groans which seemed to come from under our feet.

The excitement did not caim until daylight. Early in the morning I carried my family off the place, but returned myself in the afternoon, determined to investigate those ghost proceedings and solve the mysteries.

vestigate those ghost proceedings and solve the mysteries.

At sundown the sheep spectre came again to the grave, but proved as elusive as before, leaving me confused and baffled.

Again at dark the figure in long white drapery glided out from among the shrubbery. I followed rapidly and silently.

The figure quickened its pace, passed through the gate and left it slightly ajar.

I rushed through after it, but it disappeared in a thicket of undergrowth.

My little dog ran barking and growling into the thicket, and I followed until I fell across a big log, and almost on a white thing crouching behind it.

I clutched it, and although it struggled desperately, I held it firmly.

It was a human being. I dragged it into the open space, where by the dim light I recognized the gaunt form of old Sally Ponsonby!

"What are you doing here? you old wretch!" I exclaimed, "What do you mean by trying to frighten the life out of people in this way? !"!! teach you to come ghosting through my premises and making the place uninhabitable by your pranks! I'll make you suffer for this!"

It occurred to me that she had some set purpose at the bottom of all ly was

suffer for this!"

It occurred to me that she had some set purpose at the bottom of all these sights and sounds, and I was curious to know what it was.

The old creature began to shiver and whine.

"Oh, don't put me in jail! Ef yer puts me in jail what'll become uv him?" O Lord! Lord! What'll become uv him?"

"Who are you talking about?" I asked curiously.

"Oh Lord! I've done it now! I've done it now! I've told on him an' they'll put him in jail an' hang him again! Oh Lord! Lord!" she cried, weeping and swaying her body to and fro in the abandon of her grief and terror.

"Mrs. Ponsonby," I said kindly "was abay."

swaying her body to and fro in the abandon of her grief and terror.

"Mrs. Ponsonby," I said kindly, "you shall not be harmed at all. Only tell me what is the meaning of all the sights and sounds about this place."

She grew more quiet. "I'll tell yer all erbout it, ef yer'll promise not ter tell on him, an' not to let no harm come ter him. I've kep him out uv ther way all this time an' I'll keep him out uv ther way still, if yer'll only help me."

"Who in the world are you talking about?"

"Jim."

"But my poor woman, Jim has been dead these ten years," I said pityingly.

"William Richards, will yer hole up yer hans erfore God ermighty and swear thet yer will not harm Jim Ponsonby, an' not let nobody else harm him?" she asked solemnly.

Curlous to hear what she had to say I did as she wished.

Curious to hear what she had to say I did as she wished.

She then told me the following:
When she was left alone with the body of her son, she discovered that he was still alive.
Wild with joy and fear of discovery, she filled in the grave, and dragged the insensible boy to the Eckland House which was uninhabitated, and hid him in the cellar. There he had lived all these years, never venturing out except at night.

She did not know that he could not be tried and executed twice for the same offence, and to make his hiding place accurse, she determined to make the place of the same offence, and to make the place accurately accurate

hiding place secure, she determined to make the prince so terribly haunted that no one would dare live in it or go near it arter tark. And well she had succeeded.

In the cellar was a large mirror broken into two odd looking pieces. One afternoon the sun slanting in fell upon the pieces and three on the wall two reflections—one like a sheep, the other like a man. This gave the old woman an idea.

Every afternoon, just before sunset, she concealed herself near the spot where Jim Ponsonby was supposed to be buried, and by the reflection of one piece of mirror, she made to appear on the grave the weird, uncanny apparition of the sheep. About dark, she arrayed herself in white and promenaded the yard, personating old Mrs. Eckland's ghost. On moonlight nights she concealed herself near the gate, and by the aid of the moon and the other piece of mirror, she threw another reflection which seemed to be a man hanging from one of the trees in front of the gate.

She had a powerful, shrill voice, and from a hiding.

man hanging from one of the trees in front of the gate.

She had a powerful shrill voice, and from a hiding place near the house, gave vent to the terrible screams and groans which made the night hideous.

Heartily admiring her untiring devotion and resourceful strategy, I assisted her to restore her son to living association among his fellow men. His resurrection created a profound sensation, but the community which had long been convinced of his innocence, received him most cordially.

WORLD'S FAIR ITEMS.

An ideal almshouse is one of the curiosities of the Live sharks are shown in the Fisheries depart-

Brazil sends 1,000 samples of wheat, corn and other

A hen that walks backward is one of the freaks of the Fair.

Queen Isabella's sword may be seen in the Woman's Building. Canada contributes a block of pure nickle weighing 4,600 pounds.

The original manuscript of the "Sweet By and Bye" is exhibited in a frame.

Some of the booths in the Agricultural Exhibit cost from \$3,000 to \$15,000 apiece.

The Bell Telephone Co. shows models of all the five hundred patents they control.

ne ebony which is used for supports to the galese building cost \$300 a ton.

Forty thousand rough diamonds are Cape Colony's contribution to the Mines Building.

There is a Shetland pony on the Plaisance so small that her shoes are made of \$20 gold pieces. One ivory tusk, seven and a half feet long, is shown in the Cape Colony section. It is worth \$1.300.

Fifty thousand chrysanthemums are being raised for the floral display which will close the Fair.

The famous Jacquard looms are seen in Machinery Building, weaving intricate designs silk. Great search lights, such as are used on ships at sea on dark nights, are employed every night at the Fair.

An astronomical clock from Sydney, Australia, illustrates the motions of the Sun, Moon, Earth, Venus and Mercury.

A piece of meteoric iron weighing two hundred and thirty tons, which was recently picked up in Arizona, may be seen in the Liberal Arts Building.

The chair, the table, and the inkstand that Thomas Jefferson used when he signed the Declaration of Independence, are shown in the Pennsylvania Building. A kimetograph, which transmits scenes to the eye as well as sounds to the ear, and which is one of Mr. Edison's latest inventions is exhibited in the Electrical Building.

as well as sounds to the ear, and which is one of Mr. Edison's latest inventions is exhibited in the Electrical Building.

A dwarf cedar three hundred years old was shipped from Japan last winter, but died on the passage. It is exhibited, however, near the main entrance of the Horticultural Building.

Instruments of torture such as were used in prisons in ancient times, including some from the Tower of London and some from Nuremburg, are shown in the Anthropological Building.

HAPPENINGS HERE AND THERE.

It is estimated that an average of two people a week die of starvation in London.

There have been 1,173 burials in Westminster bbey. Tennyson was the eighth poet laureate to e buried there.

A movement is on foot in the labor unions of Chicago, to make Saturday, instead of Sunday, the day of rest this summer.

The San Martin Volcano, near the city of Mexico, has broken out after a hundred years of quiet, alarming everybody in the district.

Senator Mackay of California has bought the big-gest sapphire in the world for his wife. It cost \$150, 000, and formerly belonged to a Russian prince. Dr. Haffkine, an eminent bacteriologist, has in-oculated over 400 persons near Bombay, India, against the cholera. So far, the results are excellent. A woman was recently blown from the pier at Chicago into the lake (from whence she was rescued with great difficulty), thus justifying Chicago's claim to be called the "windy city."

Mr. Horace Beckford of Beverly, Mass., captured the original rules and regulations of Libby Prison at the surrender of Richmond, and will exhibit them at the World's Fair this summer.

the World's Fair this summer.

It was proposed to exhibit at the World's Fair a horse which coasted down a steep hill near Portland, Oregon, last winter. He was attached to a sled without shafts, and when his burden slipped against his heels he reared after the manner of his kind. He was a little too frisky, however, as he went over, landed on his back on the sled, and reached the bottom without the slightest injury to either horse or sled.

A GREATER DISCOVERY THAN ELECTRICITY.

As if by Magicit Restores Hopeless, Bedridden Sufferers. Endorsed by Board of Health.

"Worth a Thousand Dollars a Box."

From San Bernardino, California.

Mr. M. Logsdon of this place has taken the agency for the sale of a most wonderful new discovery, the use of which by many of our well-known citizens has caused them to doubt if the days of miracles are over So astonishing have been its effects in restoring helpless, bed-ridden invalids who have been given up by doctors as incurable, to perfect health and vigor, that it has been pronounced a greater discovery than electricity. Among these people are A. J. Felter, the attorney at law, ex-judge A. D. Boran, John T. Knox, justice of the peace, Mrs. J. C. Carter, T. W. Mc-Intosh, Mrs. J. G. Sloan, L. E. Beckley, and a host of others.

The article in question is called Oxien, and is the discovery and sole property of the Giant Oxie Com-pany, of Augusta, Maine. Every man of prominence in that city, including the mayor, postmaster, city physician, bank officials, and heads of the municipal government has publicly endorsed it as being all that its owners claim for it.

Analysis and public test show that this discovery differs from anything and everything heretofore placed upon the market. While it is neither a stimulant, tonic, or medicine, it accomplishes what all

these are recommended for but so seldom achieve. Judging from its marvelous effects, it appears to be the only real nerve, blood and brain food and agent for imparting new vital power that has yet been dis covered. In case after case where the efforts of the best physicians and the use of remedies heretofore relied upon have failed utterly, this wonderful discovery has given quick relief and permanent cure. Surrounded by such evidences of its genuine worth, and its unequal power to combat and overcome the gravest complications as well as the lesser ills from which they spring, and which humanity is so prone to neglect at the outset, this discovery holds out hope to every sufferer. From the mouths of thankful, willing witnesses, proof is daily received of its matchless health-giving, strength-renewing quali-

HERE ARE A FEW FACTS

which tell how the greatest of all fortunes-healthwas secured by the investment of a dollar. Over one hundred and sixty thousand similar cases are on file in the offices of the Giant Oxie Company, and open to public inspection.

Physicians insist that Bright's Disease is incurable, yet Mr. John T. Knox, the well-known justice of the peace, says: "Oxien has completely cured me of Bright's Disease and nervous troubles. I am better now than I have been for ten years; perfectly well, stout and hearty."

Consumption is another of the diseases which is looked upon by all as being fatal. Yet Josiah Van Loan says that after vainly trying a great many doctors he at last went to the Soldiers' Home, where he grew steadily worse until the surgeon said he would not live two weeks. He came home to San Bernardino to die. In describing his miraculous recovery he says: "Mr. Logsdon heard of me, hunted me up, and persuaded me to try Oxien. I began to improve right away. Yesterday I walked to town, and I feel like a new man. Oxien saved me from a consumptive's grave."

Alta I. Bowen suffered terribly for many years with that mysterious malady of the nerves, neuralgia. 'I had tried doctors and patent medicines, getting no Russian women occupy 3,000 square feet with their relief," she says. "Oxien was recommended to me exhibit of the handiwork of their sex. and I thought I would give it a trial. Although I and I thought I would give it a trial. Although I have taken but a small quantity-two Giant boxes in all-I must say it has given me great relief."

"About three years ago I was seized with an attack of La Grippe," writes H. M. Wallace, "from the debilitating effects of which I have suffered ever since having a severe cough, pains in the head, back, and limbs, also extreme nervousness, amounting almost to nervous prostration. After taking three boxes of Oxien every trace of the alarming symptoms van ished.

Another who loudly sounds the praises of Oxien is Mrs. T. W. McIntosh. Under her observation has come the case of a person half paralyzed, confined to the bed and suffering the most extreme pain, who now, by the use of Oxien, is able to rest well nights go about, and do hard work.

For the manifold ills from which women suffer, its value is no less pronounced. From Mrs. George Easton come words of the strongest praise. "My two daughters, myself, and also my sister, as well as many others in town have used the Giant Nerve Food Oxien. It is the best medicine for ladies and girls I ever saw, giving ease, strength, and comfort; just building them up."

And from Miss Rosa Velasquez, the following: "For thirteen years I suffered with catarrh, but tried | selves to be misled.

this Wonderful Food for the Nerves, and to my

joy am now perfectly well."

The attorney at Law, A. J. Felter, Esq., 8-y at tafter using but one box of Oxien he found great rall f from kidney trouble, from which he had be na u. ferer for several years, and Mrs. M. L. Armentro. t writes to the discoverers of this remedy: "Three years ago a high trestle fell on my little boy, injuring his spine. A large abscess formed, and one leg was also affected. Doctors gave him no relief, merely placing him in plaster of Paris jackets and giving him opiates. One day his grandmother gave him He rapidly grew better, slept soundly nights, his leg and back mended, and in one month's time he was a stout healthy boy, running about the place Oxien did it."

Mr. Logsdon himself first had his attention called to the wonderful curative powers of Oxien by the results it achieved in his own case, building up his constitution after severe and prolonged attacks of the Grippe, for which doctors had failed to afford any relief. The marvelous success which followed its use by other members of his family led to his recommending it to every sufferer that he could reach, and the joy and thanksgiving that has gone with it to every invalid and every home well justifies his statement that the worth of Oxien is ten thousand dollars a box." Yet it is sold at the very reasonable price of a dollar for a Giant box, or a smaller trial size, at thirty-five cents. While the remedy is within the reach of all, its results render it a priceless to the to the suffering.

From its effects right in our own community, it is not too much to say that Oxien brings to the weak, weary, and infirm, the vigor of youth, and banishes

suffering as if by magic. We are pleased to announce that for the next 30 days the Giant Oxie Co. will send free prepaid samples of Oxien to all who desire to give it a trial.

STARTLING FACTS.

From the Fall River "News."

From the Fall River "News."

That Thomas Bostock of this city is still alive will be news to a good many people in and about Fall River, where he has been widely known for many years; and that he is not only actually alive, but very well and happy, will be still greater news. The startling facts concerning his marvelous rescue are given in the following personal letter to the editor. His escape from death seems almost like a miracle, and we would like to know if any one else has ever me with a similar experience. Mr. Bostock was for more than 10 years engaged in the furniture business here, and his communication will be read with great interest:

with a similar experience. Mr. Bostock was for more than 10 years engaged in the furniture business here, and his communication will be read with great interest:

FALL RIVER, MASS.

To the Editor:—As "dead men tell no tales," my writing this letter right here in Fall River where I am daily attending to my business, will, hope, prove to the press and public that I am not dead, as reported, but very much alive. It is true that just coeyear ago I stood on the brink of the grave in a foreign land, never expecting to see my friends again; but it is equally true that today I am here in the flesh, a free, well and happy man.—I write this letter with feelings of gratitude, that my friends in and around Fall River, where I have lived over seventeen years, may learn of my experience, and how I was saved. Only those who can picture to themselves the awful agony of a man who daily feels and hears that he has at best but a few weeks more to live, can form any Idea of what I passed through.

When I sailed for England one year ago, it was with feelings of a drowning man who grasps at a straw; for I was a physicians, including the well known Dr. Guerin, that I was incurable, and that the only thing that could prolong my life for even a brief period was a foreign trip.

I had grown steadily worse ever since April. 1889, when I was first taken sick. I was so racked with bodily pains that when I ventured out I used to fall down in the streets, and my friends now tell me that they daily expected to see a notice of my death in the newspapers. I went from doctor to doctor and tried everything that was suggested, without obtaining relief. Every physician I went to had a different theory as to what ailed me, and a new course of treatment to offer. Heart trouble, kidney disease, stomache disorders, and sciatic rheumatism were among the aliments for which they treated me; and after I had taken their medicines and had become almost helpiess, I was, as I have said, advised to go to England, as that alone could prolong my life. I therefore

TO THE PURI IC

While the above cure sounds, as the "News" says like a miracle, thousands of just such cures are being effected all over the country by Oxien. Nothing like it has ever been known, and nothing like Oxien has ever been discovered. It is the only true food for the nerves, blood and brain. It lifts weary, hopeless sufferers from beds of sickness, not for a day or a week. but permanently, by giving them new nerve force, new strength, new vigor, new life. It does not stimu-late. It does not excite. But it imparts vital force and the fire of youth to the human system. doctors and medicines utterly fail and all other remedies prove useless, Oxien cures and cures permanently. It cures people who have been bedridden for years and who have been given up to die. This won-derful food for the nerves is proclaimed by all who use it to be one of the greatest discoveries of the age. It brings new life in every case, and in order to prove this fact to you The Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine will send free, postpaid, samples of Oxien, if you will send your address at once; also show you how to help your fellowmen and make a large sum of money in an honorable business.

In view of its startling success a lot of swindling concerns have sprung up who try to profit by this wonderful discovery at the expense of the owners and the public. Sufferers should not allow them-



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\$100.00 IN CASH PRIZES.

To become a member of COMPORT'S Prize Puzzle Club, it will be necessary to be a regular, yearly, paid-up subscriber to COMPORT; also to send in, at one time, not less than four new subscribers with 25 cents for each, to pay for one year's subscription to COMPORT. These four or more subscribers must be sent in one lot, and will be received any time before the competition closes.

It must be distinctly understood, however, that subscriptions sent in under this Prize Puzzle Club offer are not entitled to any of the other premiums offered by the publishers of COMPORT to getters-up of Clubs. Old and young, men, women, boys and girls, are cordially invited to join the club.

We shall publish in May, June, July and August, from six to ten prize puzzles in each issue. We shall award twenty-seven cash prizes, amounting in all to \$100, to those members of the club who send in before September tenth, the largest number of correct answers to the puzzles published during the four months above named.

The answers to puzzles which appear in these four numbers of COMPORT, must be sent in one lot, and must reach us before September tenth. Parties may become members at any time, and by securing back numbers may take part in this prize competition; but, as we cannot agree to supply back numbers, and as COMPORT costs but 25 cents a year, it is for the advantage of all to become members of the Prize Puzzle Club at the earliest possible date.

Competitors must write plainly, on one side of the sheet only, numbering their answers, consecutively, in the order they appear in COMPORT; and asside from answers to puzzles, letters must contain nothing, whatever, but date, full name and full post-office address of the sender. All replies and lists of new subscribers sent under this offer must be sufficiently stamped, and addressed to EDITOR COMPORT'S PRIZE PUZZLE CLUB, AUGUSTA, MAINE. Remittances should be made by money order, postal note, registered letter, or may be sent in postage stamps at the sender's risk. The member sending in the la

And the twenty sending in the twenty next highest number will receive 20 cash prizes of one dollar each

The award of prizes will be announced in the October issue of COMFORT. Should two parties send in the highest number of answers, the one having sent the largest number of subscribers to COMFORT, will be considered first in the awarding of prizes. This competition is open, positively, to members of this club only; and no one may compete who has not fully complied with all the above named conditions.

HOSE who have read the directions which stand at the head of this department carefully, will see that the puzzle contest for this term of four months ends with the present issue. Four months only were included in the term; thirty-five puzzles have been given; and for the correct solving of these puzzles someone is going to get the handsome sum of \$25.00, another will get \$20.00, another \$15.00, another \$15.00, another \$20.00, another \$15.00, another \$15.00 another \$1

that a goodly number will be found to have taken advantage of it when the returns come in next month.

You have still another month to work over the puzzles in, and there are no puzzles amongst them that a bright boy or girl of fourteen ought not to be able to solve. It is not too late to begin with them now. You can send for the papers beginning with the May number and work on them all together. Do not be alarmed because you are asked to get four new subscribers. It cannot be difficult for anyone to get that number of friends to subscribe to such a valuable paper as Comfort—a paper containing more interesting reading and useful information than nine-tenths of the highest priced periodicals. We are receiving hundreds of letters every week from all over this country, in which our readers are expressing the great satisfaction and pleasure they find in Comfort.

Again, do not be held back by the fear of being beaten by some one getting more subscrib-

Compost.

Again, do not be held back by the fear of being beaten by some one getting more subscribers than you, but remember that your chance is just as good as anyone's, and you are just as likely to get a prize as your neighbor. If, however, you belong to that unfortunate class of people who want to get everything for nothing; if you are unwilling to make any effort unless certain the prize will drop into your mouth, there is no prize for you here, or anywhere in life. That man who never will plant a tree or a vine for fear his neighbor may enjoy the shade of it, will be destitute of shade and of fruit in his own old age. One thing is absolutely certain; no honest effort that we make is ever wasted. We are sure to reap a benefit from it in some way, if it is not just the way we had planned.

Some of our friends are sending us in puzzles. They are very kind, and we thank them, but we prefer not to use any puzzles excepting those which are our own. Some are sending in answers already, regardless of the direction given distinctly in every number, that all the answers should be sent at the end of the term together. W. E. W. objects to the definition "circumference" in puzzle No. 3. "A plane surface" is the strict dictionary definition, but as judging from answers received there has been no difficulty in solving the puzzle as it now stands, further correction is unnecessary. It is not well to make a puzzle too obvious. The other puzzle W. E. W. questioned is correct,

In the Wheel I No. 35, each word forming the spokes of

In the Wheel I ing the spokes o No. 35, each word formheel is composed of six

only explanation which I think is required on the puzzles this month, so we will now proceed to business.

GEOGRAPHICAL PUZZLE.

In one of the New England States you can find:

1. The names of two of our presidents.

2. The names of four noted poets.

3. The name of a great preacher.

4. The names of two noted generals in our Civil War. 5. The name of a duke of whom we have all

heard.
6. The name of a great painter.
7. The name of a Bible patriarch.
8. The name of a great emperor.
9. The name of a noted historian.
10. The name of one of the pioneers of woman's

rights.
11. A famous essayist.
12. A prominent man in the early settlement of Massachusetts.

What are these names, and what State are they found in?

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

0 . . .

1, a high, steep bank. 2, a boy's name. 3, a province of Egypt. 4, a well-known Eastern empire. 5, an exclamation expressive of sorrow. 6, the title of a Hindu ruler. 7, a Bible name. 8, a month of the Jewish calendar. The initial and terminal letters give the name of a noted philosopher.

RHYME PUZZLE.

To solve the following puzzle find words that will make good rhyme to fill the blanks.

A pretty maid with sprightly— Came tripping down the—; Her eyes were brown, her cheeks were—, And dainty were her—.

A comely youth with ardent—
While pausing on his—
Unto the pretty maiden—
"I beg you, dear, to—."
"I thank you sir," the maid—
"I really cannot—."
The youth went on his way and—;
The maiden dropt a—.

The maiden dropt a-

WORD HUNT.

From a word of three syllables meaning a useful article over forty words can be made. Name the article, and give a list of the words you can make from it. You may guess it from the following words in which its letters can be found:—Blear, alum, rule.

PICTORIAL CHARADE.



A familiar proverb of eight letters may be guessed by the accompanying illustration.

CHARADES.

1. My first is something we all value and cannot do without, yet none of us is willing to keep it; my second is a word which means freedom from a person or thing; my third is a place of retreat; my whole is a lamentable condition in which my first plays a prominent part.

2. My first you can see and feel, but cannot hold; my second sometimes contains my first; hold; my second sometimes contains my first; my whole is my second, and is driven by my first.

In the following sentences find a man's name in each sentence.
Illustration:—I answered [no, a h]abit I have.
Answer, Noah.

Is the deacon radical?

Is the deacon radical.

I bought percale, but I was sorry.

Alaric hardly can read.

That ape terribly alarmed me.

If rank counts it is so.

I like the jam Esther makes. I sat on a mossy bank. I am a sad dog. I saw it and rewarded him. Who sealed the letter?

11. The dart hurt him sadly.12. I must dodge or get hurt.

FLOWER HUNT.

33.— FLOWER HUNT.

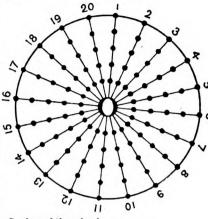
My first and second are in strain;
My third you'll surely find in Spain;
My fourth in trinket leads the way;
My fifth in trumple tomes to stay;
My sixth in rumple you will see;
My seventh is always on a tree;
My eighth and ninth in triturate;
My tenth (the last) is found in mate;
My whole, a pretty sümmer flower.

My tenth (the last) is round in My whole, a pretty summer flower,

RIDDLE.

As I was walking up to town I met two pussies coming down. One went this way, and one went that, Only because I murmured—"Scat." either appeared on land or sea, o tell me where those pussies be. So tell me

WHEEL PRIME



Spokes of the wheel:

Spokes of the wheel:

1 to 0, an atmospheric disturbance.

2 to 0, a native of an Eastern country.

3 to 0, in an undeveloped state.

4 to 0, one of the three fates.

5 to 0, a call.

6 to 0, a town in the Phillipine Islands.

7 to 0, a cotton goods.

8 to 0, a Greek deity.

9 to 0, a natural cavern.

10 to 0, a city in Portugal.

11 to 0, a river in S. Carolina.

12 to 0, a genus of crustaceans.

13 to 0, a preparation of bread.

14 to 0, a county in N. Y.

15 to 0, a kind of plaster decoration.

16 to 0, a dye.

17 to 0, an island in the West Indies.

18 to 0, an ignorant person.

19 to 0, a certain size of a book.

20 to 0, a county in Kansas.

The figures around the tire of the wheel represent letters spelling an interesting event in the history of our country.

Comport's Puzzle Editor.

I Cure Dyspepsia, Constipation

and Chronic Nervous diseases. Dr. Shoop's Restorative, the great Nerve Tonic, by a newly discovered principle, also cures stomach, liver and kidney diseases, through the nerves that govern these organs. Book and samples free for 2 ct. stamp.

DR. Shoop, Box A, Racine, Wis.

My ELECTRIC BELT sent on TRIAL FREE Give size. Dr. Judd, Detroit, Mich. Want agts.

LADIES WANTED in every locality to write for me at home, \$4 a day. No canvasing. Enclose stamp. Miss Verna Langdon, South Bend, Ind.

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A BIG OFFER Will hang up in the will hang up in the will hang up in the place, the two show in divance with samples and bills. This will trouble you about one minute, and then if you want to work on salary at \$50 or \$100 per month, let us know. We pay in advance. GIANT OXIE CO. 43 Willow St., Augusta, Me.

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the Best Remedy in the whole world for the world for the world for the mere asking. A sure, speedy and permanent cure for Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Billiousness, Sick Headache, Constipation, Rheumatism, Nervous Debility and Consumption. Write to-day. It will be sent free and postpaid. Address, EGYPTIAN DRUG CO., Box E 29 Park Row, New York.

(From U. S. Journal of Medicine.)

Prof. W. H. Peeke, who makes a specialty of Epilepsy, has without doubt treated and cured more cases than any living Physician; his success is astonishing. We have heard of cases of 20 years' standing cured by him. He publishes a valuable work on this disease which he sends with a large bottle of his absolute cure, free to any sufferer who may send their Post Office and Express address. We advise anyone wishing a cure to address, Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F. D., 4 Cedar St., New York.



ALL FREE TO YOU



wealthiest people use them for parlor decorations, as they can be made up The Designs are Ladies are delighted with them. We also call attention to the beautiful Table Mats, illustrated here. These are also Japanase, made of crepe, and are hand painted by skifful artists. One delightful ornament on any parlor table. In order to introduce AMERICAN NATION in thousands of homes where it does not now go, we will give 12 handkerchief sand one Table Mat and one beautiful 18k rolled gold plated Ring (14 articles in all), absolutely free to any person who sends 25 cents for a six months' trial subscription to AMERICAN NATION, or if you send 50 cents for a yearly subscription, we will send you two dozen Hands-kerchiefs, five Table Mats and two Rings (31 articles in all), we guarantee satisfaction. We want therefore we do not fee the goodcore sale, but will give the maway on the conditions named above. We pay postage. We will do exactly as we advertise or forfett \$10.00.

AMERICAN NATION, Box 1729, Boston, Mass. Flease mention Comport when you write.



give the Dictionary free to any one sending us a club of 4 subscribers at 25 cents each. MORSE & CO., Augusta, Me.

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More money has been made and lost in Poultry than any other home industry. Thousands of dollars can be realized at home easily by the women and children if you start and act right. Our common sense Standard Poultry Book gives all the new valuable ideas about money making in Poultry farming; the enormous profit; how to build sensible but cheap houses, how to start and stock them. All about marketing eggs, chickens and poultry. The secrets of successful managers now given to the world. Our wonderful book treats of every known kind of poultry and fowl, and their habits and diseases. As it contains over 128 pages and is handsome and profusely illustrated every family who keep even a few hens should not be with out it; it is worth fits weight in gold. We will send it free if you enclose 50c. for two yearly subscribers to Comfort. The book alone mailed postpaid, for 25c.

Address, COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

KAZOO! The Great Musical Wonder. Creat Fun for the Boys.

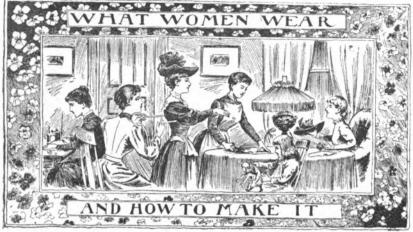


With this wonderful invention you can play any tune, imitate birds and animals, bag-pipes, Punch and Judy, etc., etc. The Kazoo is the only musical instrument that any one can play at a moment's notice, without instruction. When used by minstrel and specially artists, quartettes or choruses, it invariably receives prepeated encores. Furnishes good dancing music for excursions, picnics, etc. Superior to anything else for clubs, street parade, etc. Used as a mouthpiece on brass or tin horns, a good band can be organized with little practice, as the keys require no fingering.

Given Free as a Premium for 2 yearly subscribers at twenty-five cents each. COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

SALARY PAID AGENTS! It sprays trees, Vines, Plants; Washes Wagons, Windows; Put out fires; Whitewash henhouses; Controls bees; balls boats; Throws water 60 feet. Sample free to one person in each town if you become agent and send 10 ets. We send complete pump, If you don't want Wagons, Windows; Put out fires; Whitewash henhouses; Controls bees; balls boats; Throws water 60 feet. Sample free to one person in each town if you become agent and send 10 cts. We send complete pump. If you don't want State salary wanted. A. SPEIRS, Box D, No. Windham, Maine.

at sight, for \$10.00, and pays a 100% profit? If so us at once or you will be too late, as we only appoint one in a county Article suitable for male or female. Address THE YMFG. CO., The County of the county appoint one in a county Article suitable for male or female.



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WAS sent to the World's Fair by Comfort, and met a wo man several times on the grounds in an outfit that was both novel and the the how for an and uncomfortable of the rehamment of the how own and uncomfortable to the rehamment of the how own and uncomfortable to the rehamment of the how own and uncomfortable to the rehamment of the resperience and good sense for my readers. Accordingly, one day when she was talking with one of the lady managers of my acquaintance, I went up and asked for an introduction, and after a few minutes I asked her how it happened that, as I had noticed, she never seemed tired out like other women.

"Well," she began, "I think it is because I am dressed for service."

"And still," I said, glancing at her gown, "there is not a handsomer dress on the grounds. Would you object to telling me your secret—if there is any?"

"Not in the least," she answered cordially. "To begin with, I wear as little under clothing as I can possibly get along with, but nothing flimsy. Good healthy underwear is within the reach of all nowadays, and I prefer the silk sponge to any other kind, myself. I wear only one underskirt—a colored silk, or, on rainy days, a moreen one. My dress, however, I consider as the greatest success. Do you notice the material? It is the new silk home-spun. Every thread of it is silk, woven by a peculiar process which gives it a rough effect. Dust cannot cling to it. It resists rain, does not shrink, and wears like iron. Its chief value for a sight-seeing costume, however, is in its exceeding lightness, so that I carry no extra weight af all."

I looked at it curiously. The fabric was indeed handsome. I said that I had never seen anything like it.

"No," she answered, "it is destined to be very popular. I have a white yachting suit of it—shoes and all."

And then she held out her pretty foot for me to examine. She wore tan-colored stockings, and her tan shoes were also different from anything I had seen.

"They are made of the same m

all. I made up my consequent to the control of the

great deal this fall and winter; and as it makes up so stylishly needing very little trimming, I am glad to put this material, which is of Amer-ican make, on the list of durable and reliable new things which I can recommend to Comfort readers.

lean make, on the list of durable and reliable new things which I can recommend to Comport readers.

There is at last something new in blouse waists. Do you know that Comport's World's Fair Dress has proved the most popular travelling suit that has been worn for years? At Chicago eight out of every ten women have worn something either just exactly like it, or a close imitation. The short Eton jacket and plain round skirt that just clears the ground have made up such a true Comfort dress, that everybody has been glad to adopt it. And, although we designed it primarily for the World's Fair, many ladies have worn it abroad, and one woman was asked the other day in Paris if it was our "national costume!" The questioner, a Frenchwoman, had seen so many of them, that she thought it was the American woman's uniform!

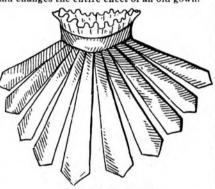




back down under the skirt with the ribbon, cross the fichu front at the waist-line, carry the ends round to the back and knot. You can draw and pin down the folds in ifront of the waist-line to make graceful curves if you like. The neck can be finished with a full frill, instead of the collar if desired, and sometimes a ruffle of lace is used.

To go back to my Fair friend at Chicago, the little cape which she carried on her arm reminds me of what one of our foreign correspondents tells me. When she first went over to England, she noticed that girls on coming home from tennis meets, etc., wore straw outing hats on their heads, and fur capes over their shoulders. The combination did look queer enough to her, although she found it a common one throughout England. Of course, the girls, after exercising, needed something over their shoulders on the ride home; but the heavy fur capes for winter seem hardly the thing for protection against a slight breeze. How much more sensible are the light, round cloth capes which are used so commonly this summer. Only the shoulders and neck need extra protection on many occasions, and the cloth cape which is much more easily put on than the jacket is just the thing. They are made of ladies' cloth, fiannel, and often of material like the dress. White silk home-spun cloth makes lovely capes for summer evenings. Velvet ones will be quite extensively worn this fall and winter, and according to present indications the shoulder cape is a necessity of the coming season for the woman who wants to combine fashion with convenience and usefulness, as I am sure all Comport readers do.

A pretty collarette often gives a finish to an old gown, or makes an ordinary one fit for dress occasions. We give an illustration which will show you how to make one at home. The tabs are made of velvet or satin, to lie flat all round the shoulder. They must be lined with crinoline to ke-p them smooth and straight. The straight band around the neck should also be stiffened in the same way. A ruffle of chiffio



A PRETTY COLLARETTE.

Among the items of fashion that every woman should know are the following:

That little children are wearing sun-bonnets again. They are made after the patterns that we all wore when we were little, and some of them are elaborately ruffled:

That extra wide skirts are not meeting with favor, and there will be a tendency to narrower ones this fall:

That our Paris correspondent already sends us a sketch of the narrow bell-skirt of last year, as the "latest thing" at Versailles;

That shirring on both waist and sleeves is popular:

That shirring on both waist and sleeves is popular:
That cork is used for bonnets, having been so treated that it can be twisted into bows; and that bands of cork are being prepared for lining the hems of dresses, so that they cannot possibly become damp:
That colored stockings are very much in vogue again, and white ones are extensively worn by fashionable women in Europe:
That ribbon trimming, either laid on plain, or in gathered ruffles, is a popular skirt garniture:
That last year's black straw hats and bonnets, if freshened up by a coat of liquid shoe-polish, and trimmed after the fashion of the present season, will look "as good as new":
That light China wash-silks make pretty baby cloaks for summer, and they can be easily laundered:

That light China wash-silks make pretty baby cloaks for summer, and they can be easily laundered:

That small boy's suits are much worn of blue serge trimmed with gold braid and worn with a blue and white, or red and white blouse. (Our June number gave a good illustration of this popular style):

That small figured silk with black ground makes up into serviceable blouse waists; and that an old silk skirt can be made into a blouse and yield considerable more wear:

That brown linen dresses, such as were fashionably worn wenty years ago, are again in style and are light, cool and do not soil easily. They are made with full skirts and open coats with broad lapels.

That white pique is again as fashionable as it was in 1870, and does not catch dirt readily:
That wide-brimmed sailor hats are almost universally worn by young women:

That tan and light shoes are very popular; but in case the shoes are of any color except black, the gloves and stockings should match them.

black, the gloves and stockings should match them.

That long, round waists are the proper thing now, the short Empire styles having gone out: That the hoop-skirt scare has died a natural death; and that common sense and conveni-ence are always to be considered before the extremes and vagaries of fashion.

Stops toothache instantly, Dent's Toothache Gum. All Druggists, or send 15 cts. Dent & Co, Detroit, Mich.

YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN. Light honorable employment at home, will pay \$20 to \$40 per week, write us. MATTOON & CO., OSWEGO, N. Y.

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ADY ACENTS CLEAR \$10 PER DAY selling my garments for ladies & children Hrs. L. E. SINGLETON, Box 665, Chicago, Ill.

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\$25 AWEEK GUARANTEED Ladles for writing at home. Send addressed stamped envelope to Miss Ethel A. Sprague, South Bend, Ind.

HONEST WATCHES Queen City Watch Co. 85 Dearborn St., CHICAGO PRINTING OFFICE

\$1.22 BUYS A \$30.00 WATCH No money in advance.

Light Rest Gold Filled Don't and the state of th

Fat People You can reduce your weight 10 to 15 lbs. a month at home without starving or injury by Dr. Clarke's Home Treatment. Proofs, Testimonials Free. F. B. Clarke, M. D. Drawer 133, Chicago, Ill.

AGENTS ARE MAKING BIG MONEY

*STEEL FIRE PROOF SECURITY BOXES *
FOR Valuable Papers, Jewelry, etc. Write for terms.
SIDWAY MFG. CO., \$2-40 SO. JEFFERSON ST., CHICAGO.

SUFFERERS Dr. Bacon's Harmless Headache Tablets will surely relieve you. 25ct box by mail, 10 cts. J. B. Simas Co., Haverbill, Hass.

FAST COLORS, For cotton and wool, any cheenes solicited. Sample ten cents, six packages 40 cents. Cabinets supplied with orders for one gross. PERFECTION DYES, Foxcroft, Maine.

Reliable Women Wanted to establish Corset per month and expenses, \$3 SAMPLE FREE. Send is cents postage for sample and terms.

Nichols Mfg. Co., 378 Canal St., New York.

LADIES or YOUNG MEN WANTED to take light pleasant work at their work on the can be quietly made; work sent by mail; no canvassing. For particulars address at once, Globe Mfg. Co., box 5331, Boston, Mass. Established 1880.



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For Beautifying the Complexion.
Removes all Freckles, Tan, Sunburn, Pimples, Lives
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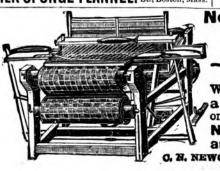


Guaranteed a perfect timekeeper. The cases are Solid Silver beauti-fully engraved, and heavily double plated with 18 K. 60LD, (etc.) shows back of case) and handsome 18 K. 60LD Plated BOW and SWIVEL.

CONSUMPTION SURELY CURED.

To THE EDITOR-Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy free to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their express and post office address.

T. A. Slocum, M.C., 183 Pearl St., New York.



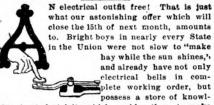
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Weaves 10 yds. an hour, or 100 yds. a day. 2,000 now in use. one sold in a town. Send at once for our New catalogue

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Practical Electricity For Boys, III.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY H. DWARD SWIFT. Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.



possess a store of knowledge about electricity which enables them to make money with this marvel of the 19th century.

Among the many letters we have received, there is one from Thompson J. McCann, Cheboygan, Mich., which shows how easily a boy can get an electrical cutfit entirely free by taking advantage of Com-FORT'S extraordinary offer. This lad sends us a club of one hundred and ten new subscribers, which gives him a profit of sixteen dollars and a half. Now, there are thousands of other boys in every State who, by devoting a few hours' time to it, could get up clubs of not only one hundred subscribers, but of two, three and five hundred and a thousand sub-scribers; for every wide awake person finds that people are ready to subscribe for Comfort on sight. It costs but twenty five cents per year, and publishes every month more original, practical copyrighted matter than appears in hundreds if not thousands of ordinary papers put together. Another boy, Walter S. Wright, of Hartford, Conn., sends a club of subscribers all of which he secured on a single street, thus leaving the field still open to hundreds of other boys right in the same town. From Nahant, Mass., Warren P. Taylor sends a club and promises to get up half a dozen more clubs before the offer closes.

Every boy in the Union, whether in city, town or country, can, by a little effort, without spending a single penny, procure a complete electrical outfit— battery, bell and telegraph instrument, and even an electrical motor, by getting up Comfort clubs and retaining 15 cents for every new subscriber he pro-cures, thus enabling him to buy the necessary materials with which to study and develop practical electricity as a pleasure and profit-bringing pastime. And he can also put money in the bank by selling, at a good price, the bells and other instruments which COMFORT teaches him to make and enables him to

Nothing has ever had so important an influence upon the business success of the world as electricity. And Comfort offers many a boy the chance of a life-

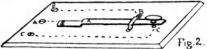
If you will carefully look over the premium offers in this issue of COMFORT, you will find that the pub lishers give for three new yearly subscribers (at 25 cents each), the Perfect Telegraph Key, together with book of instruction and the complete Morse alphabet. This key is not arranged for use in the circuit, but is merely a practice key for training the ear to read by sound. While this task is being thoroughly mastered the key described in this article (Fig. 2) will answer nicely for telegraphing by means of the bells, and while your speed increases you can easily earn enough ready money by means of our special offer (Cash for Boys) to purchase either a regular standard telegraph key for about \$2, or a key and sounder combined for from say \$4 to \$6. With the latter, the bells could be dispensed with, as soon as the young operator learned to read the quick clicks of the sounder.

Now, as my article in the present issue is to be devoted to telegraphy by the use of bells, it will be a first-rate plan for you to get three subscribers and get the Practice Telegraph Key free, and then after making the key described below, and running your wires as indicated you will have the apparatus com -that is, supposing you have made the bells and the battery described in the last two articles. You will also receive with the Practice Key the complete Morse alphabet and full instructions for using it, so I shall not go into the details of that. By the way, whatever materials you need in making the instru ments or battery I have described, can be bought through your nearest hardware store, or at any store where electrical goods are sold. Comfort cannot undertake to tell each of the hundreds of thousands of boys who read these articles just where to go for his supplies. Your nearest storekeeper or hardware man can, however, either supply you or inform you where you can get the articles by mail, but first of all you should consult the advertising columns of Com-FORT, which will usually give you the desired infor-

In the June Comfort I told you how to make a circuit closer for ordinary bell call work; to use this for telegraph work, it will be necessary to make an addition in the shape of a brass strap shaped like Fig. 1,

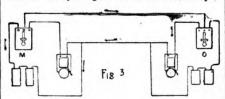
with a hole in each end for screws. It should be about 3-8 inch high under the center. Place it in position on the key base as shown in

Fig. 2, with the brass strap touching the top of the key spring A, and then with short pieces of wire connect the screw B with the strap B; the point C with the screw C: and the key spring A with the screw A all as shown by the dotted lines. The best way to do the connecting wires all underneath the block. The bells you have made will not ring over more than 400 feet of wire so you must be care ful not to get your line up before you know what you can do. If you wish to ring over a longer distance you will need larger coils with more wire, or wind a smaller sized wire on the same coils. Number 26 wire will ring about 800 feet, if wound on the same spools as you used for the number 24 wire. To run



your line you will need the proper length of number 14 galvanized iron wire. In running two lines side by side or one above the other, they should not be nearer than two feet from each other unless the line is short and should be securely fastened on the buildings and poles over which you run, with porcelain picture These knobs act as insulators and keep the current from leaking out and being wasted. After stretching the lines carefully twist a piece of number 18 annunciator wire to each end of your wires and carry it through the wall of the house, (at the corner of a window casing would be a good place), and to the place selected for your instruments. This must be done at each end of your lines. Now follow the diagram in Fig. 3, and you will see how the instru-ments should be placed in reference to each other. Be careful always to connect the wire from the bell to the B. on the Key, and wire from the battery to the screw C.

Suppose you are at M, and wish to signal your friend at O. Press the key and the current will come from the battery along the line in the direction repre-



sented by the arrows back to the battery again, and if your friend at O presses his key the same thing will happen only in a reverse direction. The Morse code of signals can be readily adapted to use with electric bells for the purpose of carrying on conversation at a distance by giving short and long rings for the dots and dashes, and its alphabet can be easily learned. It will be noticed that the strokes to represent a letter do not in any case exceed four, and that all the figures are represented by five strokes of varying length to each figure. Stops, and other marks of punctuation, are represented by six stroke which in their combinations represent two or three letters respectively. In sending signals to represent stops, no regard must be had to the letters they represent, these are only given to aid the memory and are not to be represented separately on the bell. Bell signals must be given with a certain regularity as to time; indeed to carry on a conversation in the way necessary to clear reading at the other end of the line, one must be as careful in time as when playing a march on a piano. The dots of the letter should be represented by holding down the key while counting one and the dashes by two, whilst the spaces between words, figures and stops should be equal to the time taken to count three. You must not expect to become an expert all at once, but begin by making the letters slowly and keeping up regular time. When you do not understand a word or the letter your friend is sending you, break in by making a series of dots as fast as you can, having it understood between yourselves that that is the signal to repeat the word or letter as the case may be. There are many places where this system of signaling is very handy and signals representing questions or commands can be arranged so as to be intelligible

when heard at a short distance, There are a great many uses to which an electric bell can be put by a smart, wide awake boy. If you live in the country and are troubled with poultry thieves you can put a connection on the door or the window of the chicken house, and by using heavy rubber insulated wire, can bury the wires and make connection with the bell in the house. The heavy rubber insulation will prevent the electricity from leaking into the earth and being lost. Circuit closers can also be arranged on doors and windows, in such a way as to make it impossible for any one to enter without giving the alarm. But for boys who live in the country there is nothing so fascinating and instructive as putting up a short telegraph line. By winding the bells properly, that is to say, putting on enough wire for a distance of a thousand feet of line you can have more than one station, and have a certain signal for each one on the circuit. Your signal may be K (dash, dot, dash) and your friend Harry will answer to the signal R (dot, dash, dot), and so on. In calling always use the specified signal. It is quite a neat way to communicate when wishing to impart a secret when others are within hearing distance, as with a lead pencil a message can be easily rapped out between the teeth or on any hard subtance. A band of train robbers was once captured in this way. They had boarded a train with the intention of holding it up at a convenient specified point on the route. Two telegraph operators were on the train bound for their stations in the West, and one was seated in the end of the car near the smoking car and the other was sitting opposite the four men, who were talking together in low tones. He noticed that they were trying hard to keep their coats buttoned closely but suspected nothing, until one of them in an unguarded moment pulled his coat back and disclosed the butts of a brace of revolvers. He took a closer look at the men and concluded they were all well armed, and it instantly came to his mind that they meant to rob the train, or rather the express car. He hardly knew what to do, but in a moment he thought he could signal his friend to carelessly step out into the smoking car and give the conductor and messenger his suspicions. He surmised that at a long straight stretch about two miles before they arrived at the next station, the robbers would go forward into the baggage and express car and would overpower the conductor and messenger while no one in the rear would be the wiser, and when the train reached the station, a lonesome place, they would have robbed the express safe and be ready to jump from the train and escape. With his lead pencil he quickly commenced a rat, tat, tat on he car window, making the words "don't stir, but listen." Soon his friend caught the familiar sound and started a little, but was all attention, without appearing to be, and before many seconds had re ceived this message, "Charlie, the four men opposite me are train robbers and you must go carelessly into the smoker and there notify the conductor of your suspicions. I dare not leave my seat." A look of surprise came over Charlie's face but he settled into a state of apparent inattention and listlessness, and in a few minutes carelessly took out a cigar, cut off the end and stepped out on the platform and into the smoker. One of the men muttered something to the others and seemed a little disturbed on account of the change made by the passenger. Once through the smoker Charlie dashed into the express car where sat the messenger with the conductor and baggage master. "Arm yourselves at once," he whispered, "there are robbers on the train." They were all quickly supplied with guns and revolvers, and

Charlie and the baggage master stepped back into

the smoking car and were chatting unconcernedly to-

through the car. Three of them passed out onto the platform, leaving the fourth inside of the smoker. As his three companions closed the door this man turned and was about to draw his revolver, when Charlie and the baggage master called to him to hold up his hands, which in the face of two cocked revolvers he seemed glad to do, and calling to their aid some of the astonished passengers soon had him bound. In the meantime the robber's three companions had bolted into the express car with drawn pistols only to be met by the order, "Don't stir or ou are dead men," and wisely they stopped in their tracks, and when ordered to lay down their arms, did so at once, for the determined attitude of the conductor and messenger, and the persuasive influence of two Winchesters was more than they could face and disobey orders. As soon as the first man was secure, Charlie and the baggage master, with plenty of aid by this time, hurried forward and soon had the remaining three securely bound. The knowledge of the wondrous yet simple telegraphy had saved a large amount of money and perhaps lives, and all done with a lead pencil upon the pane. Now boys, send in your clubs and take hold of this most interesting part of electric communication. Send in your three full paid subscribers and get the "Perfect Telegraph Key" with alphabet and directions, and you can in a short time become quite an expert and derive much pleasure and profit from its use. Look out for the next article on "PRACTICAL ELECTRICITY FOR BOYS," and in the meantime send in your clubsfor our astonishing offer is printed this month for the last time.

Read How This Boy Cleared \$16.50.

Cheboygan, Mich., July 3, 1893.

Publishers of COMFORT,
Dear Sirs:—Seeing your generons offer to boys in the June number of COMFORT, I thought I would avail myself of its advantages. I had no paper of my own, so I started with my sister May's copy. I worked hard to get the 110 new yearly subscribers I herewith send you, but I consider myself fully paid. I may get fifty or a hundred more by canvassing the suburbs. I had my mother copy my list so that there would be no mistakes. Good-bye for the present.

Yours respectfully, Thompson J. McCann. (110 new subscribers and \$11.00 enclosed.)

HOW A LADY ENJOYED A FREE TRIP TO THE WORLD'S FAIR.

New Orleans, La., July 10, 1893.

My dear Edna:-You know my heart was set upon taking my two children to the World's Fair, but I found it would c.st me over a hundred dollars all the way from this city, and like housands of other women, I felt that I could not afford it. I worried about the matter until I had Nervous Prostration, when a neighbor brought me a sample of a wonderful Food for the nerves called Oxien, which gave me such strength that I concluded to take an agency The very first week I cleared \$39.30, and the first month, \$229. This was last April, and we not only saw the Great Fair which was as good as a trip around the world, b.t had cash enough to spare for clothes and other comforts, and best of all the sale of Oxien brings me more and more money every day. Why, on the train to Chicago, I sold enough to give me over \$10 profit. I write you this letter to let you know how successful I have been, and do hope you will write to the manufacturers of Oxien, The Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Me., who will send you samples and books, giving testimonials and terms to agents for their profit-sharing, money-bringing, health-giving article. It is put up so attractively that it sells at sight, and now at this season of the year with the depressing influences of summer, its Malarial disorders, fevers, sun-strokes, nervous prostration, stomach troubles and Cholera, it is really a God-send to humanity. You may be sure your sister Rose wishes you to investigate and take hold of this business, very much. It has been so much benefit to us, and I know of one man who was cured about a year ago and began ordering \$5 and \$10 lots, who is now obliged to order in \$500 lots at a time to supply the increasing demands of his customers.

MARY ROSE EDGAR. The very first week I cleared \$39.30, and the first

CAGH FOR BOYS.

1. In order to enable every lay to study and experiment with the wonders of electricity, and to enable him to become a bread-winner and money-maker, the Publishers of Comfort make the following extraordinary offer, which is open to BOYS ONLY, and which holds good until September 15th, 1893.

Every boy who will obtain a club of at least ten yearly subscribers to Comfort at 25 cents each-before September 15th, 1893, may keep 15 cents for each subscriber and send us the remaining 10 cents. He will thus earn \$1.50 for every club of 10 subscribers; and as Comfort costs but 25 cents a year, and is the most interesting, original and instructive paper published anywhere, it is an easy thing for any live, enterprising lad to get up clubs not only of TENS and HUNDREDS, but of THOUSANDS. Get your relatives, friends, neighbors and acquaintances to help you and write to us for free specimen copies.

- 2. Noclub of less than 10 subscribers will be received under this offer, and the names of every club must all be sent at one and the same time, but every boy may get up as many clubs as he can, before September 15th.
- 3. Every club sent under this offer must be addressed Publishers of Comfort, (Electrical Department), Augusta, Maine, and must be accompanied with the subscription money, either in P. O. or express money order, postal note, registered letter or postage stamps BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15TH.

ON WHEELS AND HOW I CAME THERE.



"A TRUE AND THRILLING NARRATIVE," THUE AND THRILLING MARKATIVE,

Told by himself, of a fitteen-year old Yankee boy as soldier and prisoner in the American Civil War. A real
story for real boys and girls, heartily endorsed by Mrs.
Gen. John A. Logan. Chaplin C. C. McCabe, Gen.
Lew. Wallace and others. Attractively bound, colored
cover; well printed; 339 pages; full-page illustrations.

Given free for a club of 4 yearly subscribers to
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Has the largest paid in advance circulation of any similar periodical in the world.

THE HEARTHSTONE is a very large and very interesting, illus-trated literary and family publica-tion, eight mammoth pages, fortyeight columns.

In order to secure 100,000 new trial subscribers during the Sum-mer months, we make the following grand extraordinary limited of-fer to readers of this paper.

FOR ONLY TWENTY-FIVE CENTS We will send The Hearthstone from now until January, 1894, together with Twenty Complete Novels by Famous Authors.

These Twenty Novels are bright, breezy and very interesting, are printed in good readable type, from new electrotype plates on good quality of paper, and handsomely illustrated. We manufacture the books ourselves and therefore save all intermediate profits. The Twenty Novels are as follows:

ERIC DERING, MID PLEASURES, BY MARY CECIL HAY.

GEO. CAULFIELD'S JOURNEY. BY MISS M. E. BRADDON SHE LOVED HIM, BY ANNIE THOMAS. NANCE, MYSTERIOUS LODGER, BY EMMA A MOMENT OF MADNESS, BETTY'S VISIONS, BY RHODA BROUGHTON.
A SECRET DIARY, A HASTY WEDDING,
BY E. H. BURRAGE.

FOR MONEY OR FOR LOVE. A SWEET GIRL GRADUATE. MY FIRST OFFER, LOVE'S RANDOM SHOT. HELEN WHITNEY'S WEDDING, ALL'S FAIR IN LOVE, A FATAL CHOICE, A PHANTOM LOVER, THE LOST BIRTHRIGHT, BY AMANDA M. DOUGLASS.
THE GREEN LEDGER,
BY MISS M. E. BRADDON.

Make No Mistake! The literary matter contained in the Twenty Complete Novels would ordinarily make twenty books similar to those sold at ten to twenty-five cents a copy, and would therefore cost \$2.00 to \$5.00.

Upon receipt of Twenty-five Cents, in silver, postage stamps or postal note, we will send The Hearthstone until January, 1894, and all the novels mentioned above. Not one novel but the whole list of Twenty. This vast amount of reading matter will afford you entertainment and pleasure for months.

A. D. PORTER, Publisher, 285 Broadway, New York.



J. H. Sims, Pearl Amoys, Helen E. Paul, I. C. King,

Dan T. Edwards, Ernest J. Ingham, J. J. Alexande, W. S. Brown, Henry Wood.

Henry Wood.

EAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES:

I am much gratified at the number and quality of the letters which come to this department in response to the offer of cash prizes so generously made by the publishers of this best of all papers.

Now I have just one suggestion to make. There are, as you all must know, even more liberal prizes offered in other departments—as the Busy Bee, and the Prize Puzzle Club. Why do you not all make a great effort to try for those, and the large ones which will be given later? Your letters and your zeal have both convinced me that many of you have talent and originality enough to compete in those departments, and I hope you will all try. Don't let such an opportunity pass unimproved. There is no easier way to earn \$10, or even \$25, for any of you, than by solving the prize puzzles; and surely, girls, you cannot intend to let the chance to get one of those Busy Bee prizes go by without trying for it. There is no other paper in the world that offers so many eash prizes to its subscribers. They are all bona-fide offers, too, from one of the most reliable firms in America. Now I hope you are going to take advantage of them; and I know that some of you are going to win that money.

Read over all the offers in COMFORT very carefully, and try to comply with the conditions. This is too good a chance to lose.

Now, as the World's Fair is uppermost in everybody's thoughts this year, I am going to introduce a cousin from Missouri, first:

"As Chicago is now the Mecca of the civilized world, a brief description of a part of this State's ex-



Now, as the World's Fair is uppermost in everybody's thoughts this year, I am going to introduce a cousin from Missouri, first:

"As Chicago is now the Mecca of the civilized world, a brief description of a part of this State's exhibit at the World's Fair may not be uninteresting to the cousins. The largest space alloted to any one State for an agricultural display has been given to Missouri. The designs arranged to fill this 3,200 square feet of space, will, it is claimed, be the finest and most unique ever presented in the history of farm exhibits. Here, Ceres, with lavish hand, shows forth the beauties and the bounties of the State's agricultural resources. In the display there are 150 varieties of wheat and one hundred varieties of grasses. Many ingenious designs are skilfully wrought from the cereals and minerals of the State. Among others are an equestrian statue of George Washington and at a short distance from this, a gorgeous Columbian pagoda. A wooden framework composes the base of this pagoda; in the sides are worked in grains and grasses the Missouri coat-of-arms, together with the seal of the United States and a Columbian souvenir; from this arises a spire of neatly woven grains; surmounting all appears a conspicuous map of Missouri. In this design a diminutive lake contains the native fish of the State. Did you know that Missouri is a mining State also? The largest known deposit of iron ore is in the southern part of this State. Zinc is largely found. Coal underlies nearly the whole of the State. Other minerals are found but not in such marked quantities. The exhibit of this State will, when the Exposition closes, be turned over to the State University at this place."

J. H. SIMS, Columbia, Mo.

As nearly everybody drinks tea, either as a daily or an occasional luxury, the following is both interest-

As nearly everybody drinks tea, either as a daily or an occasional luxury, the following is both interest-ing and instructive:

As nearly everybody drinks tea, either as a daily or an occasional luxury, the following is both interesting and instructive:

"The tea-plant is cultivated in China through about about cleven degrees of latitude, but it will grow in almost any temperate climate. It is grown on hill-sides at an elevation extending to 400 feet, requiring an inch deep soil, good drainage and abundant sunlight. When the old leaves become hard and tough the old wood must be cut out when new shoots will be produced. Thus a tree remains useful during a generation. The plants will grow thirty to forty feet high but are kept pruned down to a height of from three to five feet. The stem is about a foot through and the plants should stand about five feet apart. The leaves are not gathered until the third year. There are four pickings in the dry and five in the wet seasons with intervals of from four to six weeks between. The process of picking is simple; the work being done by women and children. The old and fibrous leaves are left on the trees and the young leaves are stripped by hand, an inch of the soft succulent stalk being taken with them. A woman will spather sixteen to twenty pounds a day. In the third season a plant yields one-half a pound of raw leaves, but in two years the yield is vastly increased. The average yield is three hundred and twenty pounds of dried tea per acre. It takes four pounds of green leaves to make one pound of dried. Full grown leaves are from five to nine inches long. The next step is that of drying and preserving the leaves. They are dried in pans, heated with straw or charcoal. The leaves are moved by the hand, the heat is equally applied, and there is no smoke. Rapid drying keeps the color green, while the longer and slower drying and exposure to the moved by the hand, the heat is equally applied, and there is no smoke. Rapid drying keeps the color green, while in the process of manufacture, in contact with the aromatic flowers of plants which have delicate and agreeable odors and do not add to the chemic



PEARL AMOYS, BOX 390, Ellenville, Ulster Co., N. Y.

This is a most entertaining letter, and I recommend every Cousin to study not only its material but its style. Here is something on an entirely different subject, but none the less interesting:

"You have all no doubt heard of the pictured rocks of Lake Superior; but if your conception of them is as vague and far from the truth as my own was before I saw them, you may perhaps, be interested in hearing how they really appeared to me viewed under the most favorable conditions. We were a party of school teachers going for our summer vacation, on board one of the Lake Superior steamers. The weather was perfect and the good-natured Captain, hearing us express a desire to see the famous rocks, consented to run ont of his course in order that we might approach them. When we were ten miles away—so clear is the atmosphere—we began to see looming up, like the creations of the Arabian Nights, two cities. They were apparently built of various colored stone and in all styles of architecture. Here a brown-stone mansion, there a marble palace with white towers



gleaming in the sun. Houses painted pink and others in different shades of yellow—all forming a most harmonious picture. Streets laid out at right angles with marble pavements; but no busy throng was visible, not even a solitary figure; all was silent and deserted. In one quarter there seemed to have been a fire; all was charred and blackened. We designated this the Burnt District. Our boat ran up to within one-half a mile and still the picture stood out quite as distinctly. The 'Grand Portal' which you sometimes see pictured with a stea mb oat t pas s in g through it, has become impassable for any but old Lake Superior is not azure; it is deep, dark blue and oh, so treacherous!

Helen E. Paul. Ontonagon, Mich.
P.S. I forgot to say that I haven't seen so excellent a paper published for the price as Comport. The number of good things in it is worth five times the price. Nothing cheap or trashy in it. Long may it Comfort us all."

Thanks! such words of praise are exceedingly pleasant to the publishers and editors of this paper—



P.S. If forgot to say that I haven't seen so excellent a paper published for the price as COMFORT. The number of good things, in it is worth five times the price. Nothing cheap or trashy in it. Long may it Comfort us all."

Thanks! such words of praise are exceedingly pleasant to the publishers and editors of this paperall of whom are determined to make it so good that the million and a quarter homes where it is a regular visitor shall echo your postscript. By the way, the artist who furnished this illustration evidently had not seen the "pictured rocks" or else he took a rear view!

There are so many natural wonders in the West that the following story about Colorado cannot fail to interest the Cousins:

"Have any of the readers of COMFORT ever made a visit to Colorado Springs or Manitou. Those who can should certainly see this beautiful portion of our country. Colorado Springs is an exceedingly pretty town, with a very large number of magnificent residences, quite the equal of St. Louis, Chicago or other large cities. Handsome parks adorn many portions of the city, with ever-flowing fountains of water from the mountain, cold as ice. A half hour's ride on the railroad brings you to beautiful Manitou, the loveliest and most romantic spot that Nature ever made. Here are the far-famed mineral springs. Here also can be purchased handsome ornaments carved out of agate, carnelian ruby, turquoise, onyx and other precious stones collected on and around Pike's Peak. The collection of beautiful articles at the musum at the principal spring is a sight well worth seeing. I saw a teacup and saucer, each carved out of a solid piece of red carnelian, thin as an egg-shell; the price was \$90. From Manitou starts the railroad to the top of Pike's Peak. Many still prefer to undertake the tiresome climb on foot. All around Manitou are beautiful walks, the Ute trail being one of them. Little cottages are perched up on the top of very high rocks, and look as if a strong puff of wind would blow them down on the road. Wild flowers ab

Now let us hear how they raise sheep on the big ranches in Montana:



Now let us hear how they raise sheep on the big ranches in Montana:

"The wool interest is the leading interest in our new State of Montana. A herd of sheep numbers from two thousand to three thousand. They are tended by one man and a dog who goes with them on the range during the day, and brings them to his camp at night. The sheep are bunched up near the camp where they remain during the night. The sheep are bunched up near the camp where they remain during the night. The sheep leave the bed-ground, when the herder has to arise and brings them to do and sleep in. Sometimes the sheep leave the bed-ground, when the herder has to arise and bout one hundred lambs come sometimes in a day. These are kept in small bunches until they are four or five days old, when the bunches are put together to form a herd under the care of one herder and his dog. I wish all the Cousins could see the kind and intelligent shepherd dog. In June the herd is driven to the shearing-pens and shorn of their winter coats. These are packed into sacks and shipped to dealers in the East, bringing the profit to the wool grower. The shearing is done by crews of six to twelve men who can shear one hundred sheep apiece in a day."

Box 44, Red Lodge, Montana.

By this time the Cousins are ready to leave the great West, I am sure, and come to the historic state of Pennsylvania about which so much the to is the time.



By this time the Cousins are ready to leave the great West, I am sure, and come to the historic State of Pennsylvania, about which so much that is interesting can be said:



Box 44, Red Lodge, Montana.
By this time the Cousins are ready to leave the great West, I am sure, and come to the historic State of Pennsylvania, about which so much that is interesting can be said:

"Our State was the second to ratify the Constitution of the U. S., drawn up at Philadelphia in 1787, David Wilmot, who offered Congress the 'Wilmot, Proviso,' (a bill forbidding slavery in any territory which should be acquired) was a resident of this county, and the township where I live is named after him. His remains are buried at Towanda, our county-seat. Visitors to this region are always struck with the beauty of the scenery. Along the Susquehanna founded on lands, the Moravians founded on lands, the Moravians founded on lands, the Moravians of Triedenshutten.' The main street was eighty feet wide. The place numbered twenty-nine log houses, with windows and chimneys, thirteen huts, a church, a school-house, and a mission house. Between the town and the river were two hundred and fifty acres of rich bottom land, upon which they cultivated corn. In 1767 they built a larger church, with a bell, the first one hundred and tity, other population numbered wone hundred and fifty of the population numbered shuten is marked by a granite must be suffered by the remains of their camp-fires. In my grandfather's increase of their camp-fires. In my grandfather's increase of their camp-fires. In my grandfather's increase of their camp-fires, in my grandfather's increase of their camp-fires. In my grandfather's increase of their camp-fires, in my grandfather's increase of their camp-fires. In my grandfather's increase of their camp-fires in my grandfather's increase of their camp-fires in my grandfather's increase of their camp-fires. In my grandfather's increase of their administration of the my development of the fire of the c

As this Cousin has mentioned the Moravians I will give an extract from a North Carolina letter which also speaks of their quaint customs. It is not generally known, I think, that there were any Moravians in that State:

"Let me tell the Cousins about the Moravian Easter Sunday morning service. If you are so fortunate as to be in the city of Winston, or in Salem, on Easter Sabbath, you will be awakened about 4 o'clock by the music of a band. No time then for more sleep if you are to attend the sunrise service. Going to the Moravian graveyard we find the neatly kept graves covered with the choicest flowers of the season, and by half past five o'clock hundreds of people have assembled. In the distance strains of music are heard, and presently a procession of several hundred more, including the students of the Salem Female Academy, march in and take their places. Standing there among that vast crowd of people, not a sound disturbing the quietness and solemnity of the occasion, there rings out on the morning air the voice of the Moravian bishop, reading the story of Christ's resurrection; then after a prayer and a song or two, the benediction is pronounced and the crowd disperses. I think no one could regret a visit to the quaint old Moravian town of Salem. The old hotel in which George Washington spen't a night while on a visit to this town is still standing."

ROXIE E. SHEETS, BOX 62, Lexington, N. C. Here is a hint for some Cousin; who can supply the infermation?

Here is a hint for some Cousin; who can supply to information?

"Will some one give some description of games played by Indian and Esquimaux children and, if possible, the rhymes they use? Such information would be very helpful and much appreciated by a clergyman's sister."

clergyman's sister." ELISE BUCHAN.

As an evidence that Comfort is gaining favor in houses where there are children we print the follow-

houses where there are children we print the following:

"I am a teacher in a Sunday-school. About 125 children attend it every Sunday. The teachers have a meeting once a month. At a recent meeting we decided to give each child that was old enough to read, who would attend regularly and not miss a Sunday from New Year's until Christmas, a paper or magazine for one year free, the teachers to pay for the same. We were to decide by vote on the paper. As I have been a subscriber to Comport for some time, I took my papers with me when I went to the meeting, and gave them to the other teachers to read. When the votes were counted Comport rame out ahead. So it was decided that this should be the paper. As there is something for everybody in each number, each child that receives Comport free for one year will be more than pleased with it."

ORA C. HANSTETTER, Box 393, Richmond, Ind.

This is an excellent plan, and one to be commended to teachers everywhere, both in Sunday and day-schools. With our excellent Children's Circle, our Prize Puzzle Club and our Nutshell Story columns, Comport has much to interest young people. Indeed I have yet to hear of a child that does not like it. A Cousin whose name is familiar to us all wants to tell us how they make adobes in New Mexico.

"Adobes (or in Western parlance, 'dobys') are made by first throwing dirt of an adhesive nature

Mexico.

"Adobes (or in Western parlance, 'dobys') are made by first throwing dirt of an adhesive nature into a pit; next, pouring in water to thoroughly soak it; and then, with a hoe, or other implement mixing the mud





fruit-bearing trees and vines."

Jas. W. MULLENS, Roswell, New Mexico.

After this interesting account, for which we are deeply grateful, you will like to read how they make brick—a process not very different from the making of adobes:

"The clay from which they are made is first soaked with water and left to stand until the clay is thoroughly wet, when it is shoveled into the 'gum,' a kind of mill, where it is thoroughly mixed and deposited on a table. It is then molded into bricks and these are carried out and laid on a smooth yard where they lie till morning when they are turned on their edges and left again till night; when they are piled up in long rows six to seven bricks deep and covered with bopands to keep the water off. In this position they are called with open sides and piled up, leaving arches or tunnels at the bottom from one side to the other. When this pile, or kiln, as it is called, is finished, several layers of bad brick are placed on the sides and top and the sides plastered with mud. A fire is then kindled in the arches and kept up for several days, till the bricks are hardened and their color is changed to red, when they are ready for use."

HENRY WOOD, Box 181, Coin, Iowa.

The Cousin who tells us about the Apache Indians, furnished us with the pencil-drawing of their abodes.

The Cousin who tells us about the Apache Indians furnished us with the pencil-drawing of their abodes He says:



Just here I want to ask the readers of this department if they know a man by the name of Albert Vanschoiack? and if so, will they write to his aged and sorrowing mother, Mrs. Annie Vanschoiack, Avenue City, Andrews Co., Missouri? Whether he is alive or deed about it is allowed to the contract of the c



PUT TO FLIGHT —all the peculiar troubles that beset a woman. The only guaranteed remedy for them is Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. For women suffering from any chronic "female complaint" or weakness; for women who are run-down and overworked; for women expecting to become mothers, and for mothers who are nursing and exhausted; at the who are nursing and exhausted; at the change from girlhood to womanhood; and later, at the critical "change of life"—it is a medicine that safely and certainly builds up, strengthens, regulates, and cures.

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cure, you have your money back.

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would like to be the means of bringing her news of missing son. ere is a pleasant account of a journey from St ils to San Francisco:



here is a pleasant account of a journey from St.
Here is a pleasant account of a journey from St.
Louis to San Francisco:

"From the hour you Leave-St. Louis you will find everything new, curious and wonderful. There are plains with antelopes, buffaloes, prairie-dogs, ground-hogs and numerous other wild animals. The mountains, which, as you approach Denver, lift up their glorious snow-clad summits; the deep canons and gorges with their grim, grand scenery; and the indescribable loveliness and beauty of the distant mountain ranges. We thought the glory of our journey was ended after seeing the canon, but the beautiful mountains gave us new delight. Then there is the grand, stormy rush down the Sierra, followed as we drew near the lower levels by the sight of men engaged in which they conduct the water for their operation, run for miles near the track, and below a certain mountain we could see men setting the water against the great hills to get out the gold from the gravel. The entrance into San Francisco is as wonderful and charming as Fairyland. Passing down from Summit the country seems different and richer than elsewhere. The farm dwellings with their broad piazzas speak of a summer climate; even the flowers along the roadside seem new to Eastern eyes; and activery turn in the road fresh surprises await us. We reached San Francisco by passing through the great Sacramento Plain, and sailing down the magnificent bay of San Francisco to the city. Thus to the last hour of your journey some new scene opens to the eyes."

J. J. ALEXANDER, Fayetteville, Ga, a locomotive? A Cincinnati Cousin gives us a second to the eyes of the event of your journey some new scene opens to the eyes."

How many of you have ever taken a ride in the cab of a locomotive? A Cincinnati Cousin gives us a vivid description of his experience.



How many of you have ever taken a ride in the cab of a locomotive? A Cincinnati Cousin gives us a vivid description of his experience.

"Dressed in an old but warm suit of clothes, I mounted the steps of the engine and waited auxiously for the train to start. With a groan the great iron horse starts on its journey. It is now five o'clock in the afternoon, and we are due one hundred miles away at eight. Faster and faster we go, up grade and down, now running at full speed, only stopping when a station is reached, or slowing up at a bridge. It is now dusk and the headlight is lit. Darkness only tends to add to the charm. Hark! Two shots as if from a gun. No, we have run over some torpedoes, signifying 'caution, trains ahead.' Two shrieks of the whistle give notice that the warning is understood, and all is quiet again, except for the incessant click, click, as the wheels run over the joints of the rails. I have traveled in a Pullman when the train went faster, but the swaying and panting of the engine and the wind sweeping through the cab, make it seem as though we were flying through the air. Again, two blasts of the whistle and the train slacks up. A brakeman stands on the track swinging a red lantern. We have overtaken a freight train and must wait until it side tracks. Only a few minutes delay, but those few minutes must be made up, so the throttle is pulled open a little wider. At last the end is at hand. The train roils into the depot on time and all is bustle and confusion. As I descend to the platform I see the passengers leaving the well-kept cars all looking neat and clean. I am covered with soot, but I do not envy them, for I would not have exchanged my seat in the engine cab for the best seat in the parlor car."

Fairmount Ave, Cincinnati, Ohio.

There are a good many more letters in my budget this month; but I cannot open them for want of space. I shall have to save them until next time. Remember the competition in all the departments where prizes are offered, closes in September. Now, let us see wha

what you can do to win the prizes.

AUNT MINERVA.

OUR FOREIGN VILLAGES.

Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.



HERE is np place in America where one can see, within the boundary of one see, within the boundary of one see, within the boundary of one of the see of the property of the see, within the boundary of one of the see of the property of the see of

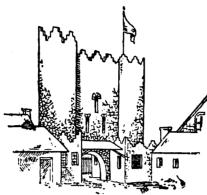
a neat little jaunting-car. In the lace cottage, girls are busy making pillow and torchon and Irish crochet laces.

The wood-carvers' straw-thatched cottage, contains a patient old man, cutting steadily at the celtic cross or the blackthorn shilalleh. Across the way is the village smithy, with a brawny man pounding iron bars into artistic rods. Stone carving and flax-weaving, the village piper, and the wishing-chair of Giant's Causeway are other features of these villages. The German village is the next one in order. Stepping through an old gate the visitor is in the midst of a cluster of quaint old German houses. Some are painted in gaudy colors; but several are old weather-beaten and unpainted ones, with here and there a bare cross-beam, and, under the eaves, clusters of braided straw beehives, such as one sees in old German pictures. Stout, folly-looking men and women from the "fader-land" sell beer and glass trinkets from gally colored booths, and beyond the houses is a genuine beer-garden with a brass-band, and plenty of cheerful customers.

The wanderer through the Plaisance comes into a strange scene, when he enters the street in Cairo. Egyptians in native costume display their wares in characteristic shapes; strange drinks are served in stranger palaces; and at the head of all, the old Egyptian Temple, covered with hieroglyphics and danked by two great obelisks, stands guard. Inside is the great astrologer and fortune-teller, who with mystic ceremony, reveals your future, according to time-honored oriental customs.

Farther down is the Indian village. This is a model of the Moqui habitations of northern Arizona, and shows the strange kinds of pottery, the handsome Moqui blankets, and the methods of breadmaking of this tribe.

Near by are the Chinese theatre and a few Celestial houses. Across the street is the Dahomey village. It occupies a large space fenced in with a high barrier made of rough bark. The cottages—also of bark are along the sides, and a large Pavilion is in the center for dancing. This is covered with canvas and shields the Dahomey women from the hot sun while they perform their native war-dances. These women are dressed in a uniform consisting simply of a sword, a club and a fringe of feathers, which serves for a ioin-cloth. This village is an absolute monarchy, ruled by terror. The Dahomeyites steal as naturally as they breathe, but they get roundly trounced for it. Before they left their native country, the King had several of his followers' heads cut off, to show the rest what would happen if they do not obey him over here. At night a superintendent goes through the Dahomey village and if any one is out of his assigned place, he gets thrashed all the way back to his quarters. They live on boiled beef and raw corn on the ear. The women are called



IN THE IRISH VILLAGE.

Amazons. They do no camp-work. At home they do all the fighting. Those who are in search of a place where extreme "woman's rights" are actually in force, should go to the Dahomey village.

Another African Village is from the free, Christian, negro state of Liberia. Here can be seen a strange mixture of exhibits; a stuffed rhinoceros, snakeskins, all sorts of queer daggers, a crazy-quilt made of otter and squirrel-skins, and tufted javelins.

Liberia has 2,500,000 people but only 40,000 of them are civilized; therefore while it has a president and cabinet, it also has painted chiefs and plenty of natives dressed only in tiger-skins and cotton hand-kerchiefs. The huts are built of plaited reeds thatched with big gummy leaves. Among the Liberian wares are grass-woven hammocks, crude India rubber, rice, stone idols, mats, dug-outs and modern gun-boats.

The street in Old Vienna is a most attractive place as it represents life in an Austrian village. Inside the imposing front are queer old plastered houses, which contain many curious wares. The beautiful Bohemian glass-ware which has long been popular is perhaps the most characteristic of all.

The Javanese village has already been described in COMPORT'S World's Fair letter and a recent childen's article. Across the street from it is a peculiar house which was brought from the Samoan islands and is still the property of Matasfa, the deposed ruler. It is five feet high, shaped like a tent, and composed entirely of bread-fruit wood, which is the only wood grown on these islands that the ants will not eat.

The Turkish village is all under one roof, and is really wothing more nor less than a great bezage.

only wood grown on these islands that the ants will not eat.

The Turkish village is all under one roof, and is really nothing more nor less than a great bazaar.

More has been written, probably, about the Eaquimaux village than any other. Their hute are very primitive affairs, and these poor natives of a frigid country look very uncomfortable in their seal-skin clothes.

The cliff-dwellers in the northeastern corner of the grounds, the Soudanese huts, the Dutch settlement, the Algerians, and the Japanese Hoodement, the Algerians, and the Japanese Hoodement, the our foreign villages.

Truly, the Midway Plaisance might well be called the Street of All Nations.

The longest rope ever made has just been completed for a cable-train in Australia. It is over 30,000 feet long, and weighs thirty-six tons.

It is estimated that if all the money in the world was equally divided amongst civilized people, every person would get \$35 as his share.

A beautiful example of the principle of rotation lies in the fact that West Indians eat alligator's eggs, and alligators eat West Indians.

If a native of Japan wants to swear he must leave

If a native of Japan wants to swear, he must learn some other language, for 'fool' and 'scoundrel' are the strongest words in the Japanese tongue.

Small silk handkerchiefs, so fine that they could be crumpled into a thimble, were recently smuggled into New York drawn through tubes of macaroni, and the whole passed off as boxes of that Italian luxury.

It is shown by statistics that only 3.34 per cent of the shots fired in warfare take effect. Napoleon once estimated that every dead soldier represented his weight in dead bullets, which does not seem far wrong.

A man on trial for murder in Nashville, Tennessee, a few weeks ago, was asked by the prosecuting atterney if he had killed the victim. He replied by asking God to strike him dead if he had. The next instant he fell dead!

A two-quart jug and an earthen bottle were found hidden in the hay on a farm which belonged to two misers in Illianois, just deceased. Inside was discovered \$7,000 in gold, making, in all, \$34,000 that has been found on the premises.

been found on the premises.

Paderewski, the great planist, known as the "human chrysanthenum," is about to marry a New York belle. He recently injured one of his fingers, and was obliged to rest for a time, which entailed upon him an estimated financial loss of \$55 a minute.

The brown bear is said to be very fond of tobacco smoke, as has been proved with tame or captive ones. Goats, itons, stags and llamas—as well as high bred horses—Bave also evinced a peculiar fondness for it, much to the dismay of anti-tobacco societies.

much to the dismay of anti-topacco societies.

A pair of twins, weighing 3 and 2 I-4 lbs, respectively, were recently born in Lynn, Mass. They were kept, the first three weeks of their lives, in a wooden box, like an incubator on a small scale. They are both doing well, although they are still wearing doll's clothes.

A tiny fox-terrier has distinguished herself as an electrician in London. She has been trained to lay wires by dragging them through the conduits with the pipes attached to her collar. Most of the underground wire-laying of the past few months has been accomplished by her aid.

accomplished by her aid.

A piece of candle that belonged to Priscilla Mullens of the Pilgrim Colony is still in existence down in Maine. It is a short, yellow piece of beeswax candle, two inches long, and very yellow and dyled with age. It is a relic of the terrible winter when starvation and disease reduced the colony in 1620 just one half.

A Harvard professor in a lecture on tornadoes, say that during them, doors, windows and even the four walls of buildings are blown outward; also that chickens caught in cyclones are often stripped of their feathers, and mud is driven into clothing with such force that repeated washings will not remove it.

such force that repeated washings will not remove it. The latest London fad is for dudes to paint or rouge their faces, penell their eye-lashes and brows, and otherwise make themselves up like a society woman, or an actress. Monocles and lorgnettes are still the fashion for these exquisites, and it will probably not be long before New York and other American cities will be blessed with the painted dude.

The time may come when we shall all "live, in glass houses." An English architect advocates the use of large blocks of glass, instead of stone or brick,

and they are already being manufactured for the pur-pose to some extent. Glass houses would be moisture proof, and if colored glass were used they might be modeled after the rainbow.

modeled after the rainbow.

A French statistician has proved that men are gradually growing shorter. In 1610 their average height was 5 ft. 9 in., in 1790, it was 5 ft. 6 in., in 1820, it was 5 ft. 5 in., and at present it is only 5 ft. 33-4 in. It is also shown that in the year 4000 A.D. men will be about 15 inches high, and in a few thousand years more the world will have to come to an end, as there will be nothing left of them.

A strange explanation is given of the big fire in the Litchfield Flour Mills. Flour dust is a powerful explosive. When the air in a mill holds the right quantity of this dust the slightest spark, a lighted match, a burning cigar, anything with fire, causes an explosion. Of course, if not promptly attended to, the mills where the explesion occur take fire and disastrous consequences ensue.

The fashionable way of committing suicide in the

astrous consequences ensue.

The fashionable way of committing suicide in the East Indies, is to jump into a well. It is said there is hardly a well in Bombay that has not been used for that purpose. A device has now been placed in all wells there to prevent suicide. It consists of a hopp of wood or metal, over which is stretched a net of light tarred rope with four inch meshes. This catches the would-be victim and saves him in spite of himself.

of himself.

Among the queer things which were smelted to make the Columbian Bell, which Mrs. Cleveland cast at the opening of the Exposition, were a spoon belonging to John T. Calhoun, a fruit knife belonging to Lucretia Mott, a link from the watch chain Abraham Lincoln wore at the time of his assassination, mementoes from Alexander Hamilton and General Schuyler, a dozen fliats taken from the room in which Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence, a lock from his gun, and about a thousand more.

ence, a lock from his gun, and abouts thousand more.

A farmer near Augusta, Ill., dug a well 77 feet deep before he struck water, when the auger suddenly fell through. The hole was plugged up with clay and debris and the well filled with water, but suddenly the entire bottom fell out, carrying all but about five feet of the walls with it. Nothing was then left but a deep hole in the ground at the bottom of which could be seen a swift, rushing stream. Rubbish, stones, logs and other debris, have been cast into it, but the rushing current carries it away almost instantly. Efforts have been made to sound the depth of the subterranean stream, but so for entirely in vain.

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pyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.

HE sound of human footsteps will sometimes give a man an astonishing amount of presence of mind.

A few nights ago a young couple were seated in the parlor of a Beau Avenue mansion. They were alone, and as the gas was turned down very low they could scarcely see one another. That is why they sat on one and the same sofa; and as they did not want to get lost, and did not want to disturb anybody in that big dark house, he held on to the little lady's hand. He was talking to her in a solemn, low whisper, and had got as far as: "I cannot put it off any longer, may I call you my own dar ... when footsteps were heard in the hall. Although only seven seconds elapsed before her father stepped into their presence, the gas was burning as bright as day; she was sitting on the solitary little gilded chair near the window, while he reclined in the rocker at the farther end of the room, and

was explaining to her in a firm clear voice, that if Congress repealed the silver bill, the present stringency in the money market would be materially relieved, and that in his opinion the late war was a fearful

"Succumbed to the influence of lead poisoning," is the way in which a cultured literary lady from Boston tells the world that her hero died with his boots

Capturing a Kisser.



Capturing a Kisser.

IT is a pity that some men do not learn how to put out the gas and eat pie with a fork before they attempt to make laws for other folks. If, for instance, the Park Commissioners of Baltimore would abolish the t-ill gates, surface sewers, and cobblestone pavements, which fill the pathway of visitors to that city with cuss-words, caniptions and corns, instead of passing "Anti-Courting" ordinances, they might perhaps some day secure a seat in a golden chariot and see its wheels go round in the sweet fields of Eden. But if reports be true, the way in which some of these gentlemen recently sat down upon one of the heaven-sent joys of life, leaves them no more chance for a harp than a snowball has in the heat bye-and-bye. Here is what a local paper says:

The famous "no courting in the parks" order has been tested judicially and decided by the court to be perfectly legal.

Since the law was passed there have been made a

The famous "no courting in the parks" order has been tested judicially and decided by the court to be perfectly legal.

Since the law was passed there have been made a number of arrests, and Justice Timothy Maloney, who presides at the Eastern Police Station, has generally imposed a fine of \$20 and costs on the male offender, the affectionate lady getting off with a fine of \$5. As a rule the offenders have paid their fines, but Leroy Penn, a colored gentleman, who was the last victim, was not willing to pay or stay in jail as a penalty for kissing his sweetheart in the park.

Mr. Penn and Annie Paine were arrested Monday night. Annie paid her fine, but Leroy was committed in default. He sent for Lawyer William H. Daniels, who secured a writ of habeas corpus in behalf of his client. Daniels contended that the commitment was defective; that Justice Maloney was not vested with the authority to send Penn to jail in default of the fine; that the rule prohibiting courting in the parks is improper, and that his client was not courting, but merely holding a tete-a-tete with his companion.

The oriminal court was crowded when the case was called. Judge Harland's decision was in favor of the Park Board and against the prisoner, who will either have to pay the fine or remain in jail.

Now, that may be high-toned justice, but it will critic pain people that the decision is all

Park Board and against the prisoner, who will either have to pay the fine or remain in jall.

Now, that may be high-toned justice, but it will strike plain people that the decision is all wrong, and we hope the case will be appealed. In the first place, the kiss is in reality an act of Providence just as rain, lightning, hail, etc. And, as not even a Baltimore judge would be likely to fine a man for having been struck by light ning, he cannot legally punish him for having been hit by a kiss.

In the second place, the "no courting law" clearly conflicts with the principle of equal rights, inasmuch as it places a cash value of \$20 on the male kiss, while the equally fresh female kiss is taxed at but \$5. If the peace and dignity of a Baltimore park can be damaged at all by a simple and perfectly natural act of courting—colored or otherwise—it follows that the same market value must be placed upon the kiss of the girl as upon that of her sweetheart—at least, so long as it is not in evidence that the kisses exchanged were of a different species, size or quality.

But the chief reason why the act should be

kisses exchanged were of a different species, size or quality.

But the chief reason why the act should be killed is because it is unconstitutional.

It is a principle of law, older than any park commissioner who ever captured a kisser, that no man shall be required to do that which is impossible; and every man knows, or ought to know, that it is simply impossible to picnic in a park with a Baltimore belle and not kiss her.

In this connection it is our pleasure and duty to bring to the favorable notice of park frequenters and others, a discovery by which the inconvenience, indignity, and financial loss, imposed by the obnoxious law in question, may be happily avoided. We refer to the Kinsabby Kiss Transmitter, an ingenious electrical invention which is easily attached to any telephone, and by means of which kissing is accomplished by wire.

Those who have tested this wonderful little instrument, speak of it in the most enthusiastic

terms, and all agree that the new process in no wise diminishes the force or flavor of the kiss, but that, on the contrary, the latter is delivered and received with the same ecstatic thrill and sweet-sounding smack which characterizes the open air article that retails at \$20 in the Baltimore market.

more market.

The new transmitter will be placed before the public on the 31st of next month—not as a matter of business, but purely for COMPORT. And, in the meantime, the inventor will be most happy to demonstrate, free of cost, to any young ladies of Baltimore who are afflicted with heart hunger but object to paying \$5 for gratifying it, the advantages of his discovery. nore market.

FOR sixty-three years Hezekiah Meadowgrass had wrestled with the frigid snow shovel and waltzed about in Arctic overshoes up in Midwinter Minnesota, without ever worrying as to what the wild waves were saying. He had, in fact, never smelt salt water in all his life, and that is precisely why his nephew in New York, whom he visited last month, thought it would be a great treat for him to go to Coney Island and see the blue billows of the briny

deep kiss the silvery sands of that blistering beach. It was a new world that unfolded itself to the astonished uncle as he gazed upon the huge hash gymnasiums, the merry-go-rounds, the water toboggan, shooting galleries, chest-expanding, muscle-hardening, and other appetite-developing devices which enable the sleek and nimble-fingered New Yorker to make a large-sized living by the sweat of other peoples' brow.

The trip would, of course, have been incomplete

without a surf bath, and when the nephew invited the old gentleman to step up to the bathing suit emporium and select an outfit, he good-naturedly con-sented, saying, however, as he picked up one of the queer, sleeveless garments, that he would "look like a sick monkey with a yellow mustache in a pair of those sawed-off circus tights." And it was with some misgivings that he deposited his Waterbury watch for safe keeping, and locked himself up in the little booth assigned to him, for the purpose of making the necessary change in his apparel.

When he finally slyly sallied forth, even those with

sand in their eyes could see that while Uncle Heze-kiah's estimate as to the size of the next wheat crop might be excellent, he had made an exceedingly wild guess as to his own shape. Had he attempted to compress his robust form into the spindle-shaped pantelettes of the divine Sarah Bernhardt, he could not have attracted more attention, for he looked as much out of place as a fresh water mermaid in a pasture of Canada thistles.

86 Game to the last, however, he met the nephew on the beach and boldly struck out for the bounding billows, where he frolicked among the pretty girls, who were clad in sweet smiles—and bath-ing suits that struck him as the most economical thing he had

yet run up against in the East. Although he was not at all thirsty, he swallowed any quantity of salt water during his dips, filled his whiskers and hair with sand, and soon was ready to come out.

Wading up the beach, he glanced at his numbered key and timidly searched for his room in the long line of bath houses. He was nearly struck dumb when, upon inserting the key in the lock, there arose from within a series of hysterical shrieks.

With visions of bunco games and green-goods swindlers rising up before him, Mr. Meadowgrass attempted to force the stubborn lock. The uproar that now met his frantic efforts resembled the vocal kick that greets the umpire when he calls three strikes on a member of the Chicago Base Ball Club. It was even worse, for the party of the second part was evidently a woman

The old man's knees knocked together with fright. but he stood his ground like an Indian fighter. A huge crowd quickly gathered, and a polite attendant attempted to explain that there was evidently some mistake. But the old gentleman's blood was up. He insisted that his clothes were in that coop, and he would have them in spite of all the women in creation, and if he had to lick every man on the island.

At this, half a dozen special policemen attempted to "run him in" for disturbing the public peace and private dignity of the place, when, fortunately, his nephew appeared on the scene.

Upon quietly pulling the key out of the lock it was discovered that Mr. Meadowgrass had read the number of his room wrong side up.

Although it was only a small affair, as his nephew assured him, the old gentleman left for Minnesota that night.

One day last week, when a servant girl up in the sand hill district of Augusta answered the front door bell, she found a ragged tramp at the other end of it who asked if he might "come in and have a fit." This so frightened Bridget that she swooned away herself, while her caller helped himself to a fifty dollar overcoat he found hanging on the hat-rack, and departed leaving a note saying it was the best fit he had ever

A correspondent from Leftfield, Louisiana, wants to know "who teaches women to steal?" Why, the husbands who make their wives beg for everything they give them.

Wise Words of a Departed Philosopher.

Flattery is like cologne water-to be smelt of, not swallowed.

The man who hasn't a well-balanced head usually parts his hair in the middle

"Love at first sight" is the greatest labor saving discovery known to society.

All things should be true to nature-a hornet that can't sting is a melancholy failure.

If you are blessed with a home and a mother-inlaw, pay for her board at some good hotel.

Half the troubles of this life can be traced to saying 'yes" too quick, and not saying "no" quick enough.

Any man who can swap horses and catch fish and not lie about it, is just about as pious as men ever get

in this world.

Don't swap with your relations unless you can afford to give them the big end of the trade.

Success doesn't depend upon never making a blunder, but upon never making the same blunder a



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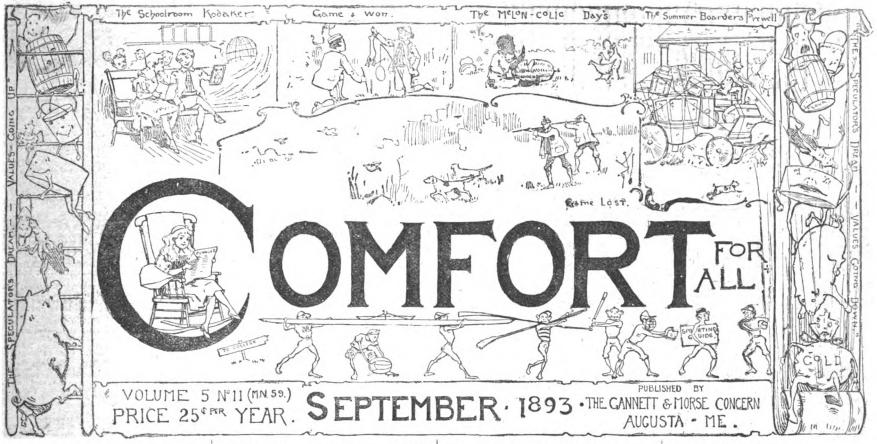
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the following conditions will hereafter govern the warding of cash prizes for Nutshell Stories, and the warniseripts of such writers only as have compiled with all these reguirements will receive consideration.

All the necessary particulars being here clearly set forth, it will be useless for any one to seek further instruction or personal favors by addressing the editor, as such letters cannot be answered.

1. Only persons who are regular yearly subscribers to "Comfort" and who send with every manuscript at least two new yearly subscribers (together with 25 cents for such subscriber so sent) may compete for the prizes.

2. All contributions must have the number of varies they contain plainly noted thereon in addition to the writer's full name and address with non de plume if desired; must be written on one side of the paper only, sudressed to Editon Nutrshell Story Club care of Comport, Augusta, Maine.

3. All stories must be strictly original with the contributions when may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adventure, fore, war, peace; or city or country life, or of experiences on land or sea—hut to story must contain more than 1,500 or less than 1,000 moress. sity or country life, or of experiences on land or sea-but no story must contain more than 1,500 or less than 1,000

words.

4. No Manuscript will be returned under any executed from a copy of what they send therefore returned under any executed for the second best. \$25 cash; of the third best, \$20 cash; of the fourth best, \$15 cash; and of the fifth best, \$10 cash. Remitteness will be sent by check as soon as awards kase been made.

The Publishers of "Comfort" reserve the right to purchase at their established rates any stories submitted wader the foregoing offer, which failed to secure a price. No premiums will be given for subcsriptions sent in under the Short Story Prize Offer.

PRIZE WINNERS FOR SEPTEMBER. Alleine C. Watts, First Prize.

Gordon Noel Hurtel, Second Prize.

Catherine Jewett, Third Prize.

Pamela Judde, Fourth Prize.

Alwin B. Jovenil, Fifth Prize.

UNCLE NOEL'S PORTRAIT.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY ALLEINE C. WATTS.

Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.

T always hung above the black marble mantel in the parlor that opened from the hall, just under the wide stairs.

> The room was called Uncle Noel's room, though over a hundred years had passed since that occupied it.

Aunt Janie was sitting there when I went to tell her that uncle John had refused his consent to my marri-

age with Larry. I dropped down on the rug

beside her low easy chair and laying my head

on her knee told her all about it.

"He says he cannot allow me to marry a poor man, and Larry is as poor as a church mouse, with little more prospect of bettering his financial condition; for, of course, he can't go away and leave his aged mother, and who could make money here?"

Aunt Janie smoothed my tumbled hair with her soft hand, as she replied: "It is hard, Leslie, there's no denying that, still I think with brother that it is best. Love is a great thing, child, but it isn't everything, and it sometimes happens that it is better to send our loved one away than to make the dear life harder. Larry has all he can do now. Leslie What a burden "What would be more fitting?" Olive asked.

a wife and little ones would be to him! You "He made it with which to purchase his own.

But what young girl ever saw reason in cold, calculating philosophy?

I loved Larry and he loved me, was not that sufficient?

Aunt Janie shook her head when I told her this. "If mortals were as care-free as your pretty canaries, Leslie, you might be excusable for such ideas, but we are responsible beings. The time will come when you will be glad that you laid your love away quietly, instead of dragging it through years of poverty and even want," she said tenderly, so that I felt sure she had opened one of the secret chambers of her heart and was looking at some sacred treasure that lay buried there.

"Aunt Janie," I asked, "are many persons called upon to make this sacrifice?"

"I think so," she said.

I was looking up at Uncle Noel's portrait, the queer, ugly picture that had hung over the parlor mantel ever since I could remember.

wonder if those old people had trouble like this," I said. "Uncle Noel's face is so grim and stern I am sure he never could have loved anyone."

"Yet they tell a very pretty story about him," she replied.

Belle and Olive came in now, and we clustered about Aunt Janie's feet begging for the story.

"Well, you know," she began, "he was your great grandfather's brother. He was, they say, a very handsome man, though, to be sure, one would scarcely think so," glancing at the picture that frowned down from the solid brass frame. "Nevertheless, we will try to believe it," she continued, "for it adds something to the story. Well, he fell in love with a charming maiden whose father sent him away because he was poor.

"Years passed. An English uncle left quite a snug fortune to uncle Noel's brother-your great grandfather-and he built this house. Uncle Noel was still far away and nothing could be heard of him, for in those days mail routes were not stretched out to every farm house and country store as now. So uncle Noel's lady love received no message from him. and, after a while, when he returned home, she was the happy wife of a wealthy man, with daughters who were nearly old enough to be thinking about homes of their own.

"They say that after this great grief he was like the portrait there; hard, and cold, and bitter. He came here and lived with his brother, and every one believed him to be immensely wealthy.

"After a long, lonely life he died, and left a will as odd as his existence had been. It only stated that he had been kindly treated by all his relatives. He did not wish his fortune divided, and he could not decide who ought to have it, so he had hidden his wealth and it should belong forever to whoever might be able to find it. It was a legal will, properly signed and witnessed, but every one decided that his mind had been wrong. People remem-bered many strange things he had done One was, he traveled a long way to have his portrait painted. Some thought he went to Italy, and experts who have examined the picture declare it was done by one of the finest painters of that day, I forget his name-you ought to know. Well, be that as it may, he brought the portrait home and it has always hung there pointing up, this was his room you know.

"For all their doubting, it is said that the house was almost torn down in the search for uncle Noel's wealth; but it was given up at last and has come to be as mythical as the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow."

"How I wish I could find it!" I exclaimed.

Belle laughed.

"Ah, Leslie dear, don't set your heart on buying your happiness with uncle Noel's money," she said, growing swddenly grave, as she remembered my sorrow

My cheeks were burning, and aunt Janie looked half frightened.

"Child," she said, "let this foolish old story pass from your mind." Then growing a little pale, she turned to Olive, "Do you know," she asked softly, "the girl uncle Noel loved was Larry's great, great grandmother?"

"Is it really true?" Olive whispered.

"Yes, there is an old diary that was kept up for many years that proves it. There, girls, run away, it is bed time."

We went to bed, but I tossed a long while before I slept. Then I dreamed that I went down and asked uncle Noel's picture to tell me where his treasure had been hidden.

The face seemed to light up with life, the lips parted and spoke to me, "Take me down, my poor little girl, and I will tell you."

I dreamed that I took the picture out, and, as I did so, the frame, that we thought was solid brass, opened, and I found it full of strange gold pieces and diamonds!

There was an awful scream and I awoke. I found myself standing in the little parlor before the black marble mantel, and the glow from the dying fire fell upon the portrait that had fallen to the floor and gleamed upon the heavy oval frame-the frame that I had opened -that was now aglow and aglitter with gold and jewels. Scattered about me were countless yellow coins, and Olive, white as a ghost, stood in the doorway.

I looked at her, heard hurrying feet approach-

ing, then I seemed to drift away into darkness. When I awoke again I was lying in bed, and Aunt Janie was tripping softly about. Calling her to me I told her my dream. She gave me something from a glass and said I must go to sleep. She nursed me tenderly for several days. Then Larry came to see me and, when they thought I was strong enough, they told me that my dream was all true. I had gone in my sleep to the parlor and had taken the heavy portrait down in my fancied talk with uncle Noel. In moving it I must have touched the spring that held the frame together.

In accordance with uncle Noel's will I was heir to his hidden treasure, which I divided among my family generously.

Candor demands that I add, however, Larry got "the lion's share" of it when a few weeks later we were married.

The Romance of a Soldier's Grave.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY GORDON NOEL HURTEL.

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HE long ride from Washington to New Orleans was tiresome, even to an experienced traveller, and as a diversion I strolled through the long train as it thundered over the hills of North Georgia.

In the smoking car I thought to catch a sight of a real live "Georgia Cracker," a specimen of mankind which I had often read about but had

never seen. If there was a Georgia cracker in the smoking car I was not able to identify him. Only two passengers in the coach attracted my attention. One, an elderly man, of fine physique who sat with his hands crossed in front of him and his eyes staring moodily from beneath the broad brim of a black felt hat, pulled well down, at the rapidly shifting panorama through the window opposite his seat; the other, a white haired and white bearded man, hale, robust and companionable looking. I involuntarily paused near the seat of the latter, who sat immediately behind the former.

"Have a seat, sir?" he asked in cheery and police tones, at the same time making room

I accepted the invitation.

"A stranger in this part of the country," he asked, "a tourist?"

My traveller's dress told as much, and my affirmative nod was scarcely necessary.

Our conversation turned upon Georgia's soil, climate and people. Next we drifted upon the "New South" and the prosperity of her people; finally we talked of the late war between the

My companion had been a Confederate soldier and he spoke with some enthusiasm of the battles in which he had fought, of the deadly siege of Atlanta and of Sherman's famous march to the sea.

"Tell me," I presently asked, "do the south ern people still cling with much tenderness to the memories of the war?"

"Well, yes," he replied, "those who were old enough to remember it do; and many of the vounger people have been raised to look upon the men who were killed in the war as heroes."

I asked if the people in that section were not of a romantic temperament, and if they did not



cling to traditions with much fervor.

The man in front of us moved uneasily in his seat, and my companion watched him intently a few seconds before answering my questions.

"Yes, we southerners have a great deal of romance in our natures," was his reply, "and the war gave that characteristic full scope to show itself. Why, sir, I knew a lady, who lived near Savannah, who wore mourning eighteen years after the war for her lover who fell on the battle-field."

"And she only ceased wearing it because she died?" I ventured.

"No, she is still living."

story.

Again he paused to look at the man on the front seat, and then continued:

"She only laid the black garments aside to marry a missionary to China. She was a beautiful woman and had many offers of marriage. The only reason she ever married was because she wanted to do missionary work herself among the heathen told night of the marriage she threw herself into the arms of her soldier lover's sister and wept I don't suppose the Chinese missionary knew what it was all about."

The speaker paused a moment to light a cigar which I had offered him, and between the puffs of smoke asked me:

"Do you want to hear a real southern ro-

mance?' The tones of my voice, as well as my words, told him how delighted I would be to hear his

"Well, sir, there lived near Montgomery, Alabama, a lady, a Miss Hamilton, who, like many another southern lass, sent a soldier lover into the war with his cheeks wet with her tears. Her daguerreotype was in his pocket, and he wore a lock of her hair like an amulet over his heart-and all that. There was a tearful adieu, hand-kisses thrown down the long lane, and then-the parting. I heard that the young soldier won honor on the battlefield and was promoted to a captaincy. He had been wild as a college boy, and was, so I was told, wild in

The man on the front seat partly turned around to look at us, and my companion drew a little nearer to me and spoke in a lower tone as he continued: "Captain James A. Ludlow was a merry as well as a brave soldier, and I am afraid that all the heartache was at home. He was shot down in a charge and his name went on the list of the killed. Like hundreds of others who went down before the colors, his remains were not found by the loving hands that sought to lay them to rest in the family burial ground."

The cigar went out and he paused to relight it.

his remains were not found by the loving hands that sought to lay them to rest in the family burial ground."

The cigar went out and he paused to relight it.

"Do you know, str." he continued, "that I have often thought about the graves of both Federals and Confederates which are marked with that ominous word 'Unknown.' a word which hides a mystery that only the revelations of the Judgment Day will reveal. Every effort was made to find the grave of Captain Ludlow, and none worried over the matter more than the heart-broken and disconsolate sweetheart at Montgomery. She married at the close of the war, but whenever the opportunity presented itself she made inquiries which she thought might lead to the location of Captain Ludlow's grave. After she was a grandmother she met a Methodist minister who told her of a midnight funeral at which he officiated during the war. A Confederate soldier had died in a hospital in Atlanta, and he gave him a Christian burial in a garden near the hospital. The tuneral was at midnight and a hurried one, as the stirring times permitted of no delay. The soldier's name, as he remembered it, was Captain Ludlow. She found the grave and had the remains secretly removed to the Montgomery cemetery. She was an old woman then, and she is an old woman now, while she plants flowers over the grave which she thinks noted her to the first of the remains secretly removed to ther than the love of her venerable nusband."

The train was slowing up for Atlanta, where I had to change cars.

My companion excused himself and arose and bent

The train was slowing up for Atlanta, where 1 nad to change cars.

My companion excused himself and arose and bent over the man in the front seat. I saw that he was unlocking a chain which fastened the handcuffs on the man's wrists to the side of the seat.

"He is your—"

"My prisoner," he replied. "A mountain outlaw—that is, a Georgia cracker—and a bad one; and he is—"

He bent close to me as he whispered the name: "Captain James A. Ludlow."

A MYSTERY.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY CATHERINE JEWETT.

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T was a beautiful house, well set back from the village street, and densely shaded by a centuries growth of elmi and maples. The hall door was wide open, and a flood of rosy light streamed in a well defined parallelogram across the shadowy lawn.

I alighted, somewhat uncertainly, from the imposing carriage that had, according to the driver's assertion "been sent to fetch you, Miss," and ran up the steps, fully expecting to meet the sister, whose wonderful nev fortune had made this holiday possi-

Passing through the open door, I came upon an odd looking, middle aged woman, holding two tiny children by the hand, both of whom were weeping piteously.

"It is a sad house you have come to!" said this person, evidently shock ed out of all thought of conventional

"There has been murder done here! murder most foul! Will you look to the children please Miss? Master is away, and I've my hands full, though until you came, I wouldn't leave them, poor mother tess dears!"

Shocked and frightened into unquestioning obedi ence, I gathered the little sobbing children in my arms, and passed into a room that had evidently just been vacated.

The rich furnishings, over which a generous open fire sent fantastic lights and shadows; the artistic litter of feminine belongings, all seemed to partake of the dainty personality of that sister whose tragic story was as yet unknown to me.

At last the tired out children fell asleep, and, as I said them gently down, the door opened, and the woman I had before seen called to me.

"Wouldn't you like to see Miss Alice?" she asked in a husky whisper, and, apparantly taking my answer for granted, she led the way into a large, chilly apartment where, upon a ghostly white bed, lay the fragile body of my sister.

As she drew away the sheet, I was shocked at the expression of horror on the frozen face, and called

As she drew away the sheet, I was shocked at the expression of horror on the frozen face, and called out sharply, "Oh! how she must have suffered!" "suffered!" repeated the woman, drawing stealthily nearer, "see that!" tearing as she spoke, the shrouding linen from a gaping rent in the white throat. "Who wouldn't suffer, to have their life wrenched away from them like that? You would suffer yoursel!" and at the words, a strange transformation swept over her large, fair face. It seemed to lose its humanity, and grow visibly beastial and wolfish her eyes glittered, her lips curied horribly away from fang. Ilke teeth; and her right hand, strong as fron, irresistible as fate, clutched at and bore me backward. Then I saw her left hand, and in it a short, sharp knife.

In that awful moment, between its upward lift and downward stroke, I read the secret of my sister's ended life, and then! then!—I awoke.

Awoke faint, trembling, hardly able to realize that the terrible experience through which I had passed, was but the unreasoning vagary of slumber.

So real and vivid was the impression left upon me, that I should have been seriously uncomfortable, but for the one saving fact, that I never had a sister. I concluded, therefore, that the night-mareish vision must be due to the worry and over-work, incidental to an unhappy change in my personal affairs. The next day I was to leave home, driven thence by the stern necessity of earning my own living.

Needless to say, the journey to Orland, where I was to act as governess to two motherless children, was a ada and trying one.

At the station, a private carriage waited, and I was half startled to hear the smart driver, with a touch at his cap, announce, "Sent to fetch you, Miss."

Strange to say, he drove rapidly to a handsome house, set well back from the street, and shaded by a very forest of clims and maples.

The door was flung open as we drove up, and in the flood of welcoming light stood a woman and two children.

flood of welcoming light stood a woman and two children.

By this time I was actually frightened.

In the light of unfolding developments, my dream seemed uncanny, if not prophetic, and, pleading a headache, I begged to be shown at once to my room, determined, when morning came, to give up my situation and fly ingloriously.

A good night's rest, however, brought me to a beter state of mind, and I settled down to a very easy and comfortable life.

and comfortable life.

Mr Hammond, the master of the house, a pleasant tooking man prematurely aged by trouble, I seldom saw. The housekeeper was a motherly, comfortable soul, the servants well trained and respectful, the children pretty and intelligent.

The oldest girl was especially lovable, although she sometimes worried me with nervous fancies and firsterless ways.

tysterical ways

I had been in the house two months, before I caught sight of its hidden skeleton.

Then I learned that Mrs. Hammond was not dead Then I fearned that sylum.

Three years before, her eldest daughter had, as every one supposed, committed suicide by cutting her throat.

her throat.

Her mother gave the alarm, but she could never explain how she happened to be in the girl's room in the middle of the night.

In less than a year the tragedy was repeated.

This time her only son was the victim; and as before, she gave the alarm. Within six months Mr. Hammond's throat was cut, his wife was found beside him, a bloody knife in her hand.

Dr. Ralph, Mr. Hammond's brother, was the family physician, so it was possible to hush the matter up.

his wife was found beside him, a bloody knife in her hand.

Dr. Ralph, Mr. Hammond's brother, was the family physician, so it was possible to hush the matter up.

The unfortunate lady was taken to an asylum for the insane; her husband recovered, a broken-hearted man.

The story was told me in confidence, by the house-keeper, and was offered as a possible explanation of some of little Alice's odd, unchildish actions.

I was naturally shocked at the recital, and covered my face with my hands as it proceeded.

The horror of the narrative, however, sank into insignificance, as happening to glance through my fingers, I caught a momentary glimpse of the speaker. Her eyes were all aflame with excitement; her lifted upper lip showed a sharp wolfish glitter; in one awful moment I half read a riddle of death and crime unspeakable.

That very night I made an errand that took me to the office of Dr. Ralph Hammond. There I told my story; just a network of dreams, suspicions and impressions, that excited first amusement at their improbability; then apprehension as to my own sanity; and at last, a certain faint interest.

In two days Dennis the drivor disappeared, and a new man took his place, while I breathed easier, knowing that every inmate of the house was under the vigilant eye of one of New England's most famous detectives.

The denouement came even sooner than I expected. The fourth night of his stay he followed Mrs. Burns, the housekeeper, to the children's sleeping room; saw her drag Alice, wrapped in profound mesmeric slumber, from the bed, and stand her, stark and rigid, beside it, while she herself bent over the other sleeper.

With one bound he caught her hand, uplifted to its murderous task.

In the rage and confusion of discovery, the whole awful story came out.

She was a mad woman, had been mad for years, and poor Lilia and Jamie Hammond had not been her only victims; but the cunning of insanity, joined to a strange mesmeric power, had always enabled her to shift the burden of her own ill doing on to innocent

A STRANGE SUPPER.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY PAMELA JUDDE.

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IVE O'CLOCK!

Bessie Lawson, operator in the telegraph office at Caxtonville, counted the strokes and sighed. Would the day never end, she wondered. Outside, the rain was fall-

ing with a steadily increasing force; the wind, that an hour before had been a mere rustle among the treetops. had now risen to a tempest, driving the rain flercely be-

fore it, and causing the little station to rock and tremble, as if in the grasp of some destroying monster.

The early twilight was fast merging into darkness and Bess, though naturally fearless, shrank at the thought of a two mile walk home through the storm

Another hour slipped away. A step sounded in the entry, and then the night operator came in, shaking the drops of water from his huge rubber and grumbling discontentedly over weather.

Bess smiled at his curt "good evening." She was well acquainted with Joe Newman's peculiarities.

As she drew on her outer garments, preparatory to departing, a red lantern standing in one corner of this mode of life. The top of his head felt as if a flend the office caught her eye. Catching it up she turned whirled a red-hot grindstone within and the muscles laughingly to the operator and exclaimed, "Guess I'll borrow this for to-night, Joe. It will prove an apology for a light, at least, and it is darker than pitch outside."

"Take it, if you choose," Joe replied, as he settled himself at the telegraph instrument.

"Take it, if you choose," Joe replied, as he settled himself at the telegraph instrument.

Bess lighted the lantern and struck out bravely for home. She had covered, perhaps, two-thirds of the distance, and was passing through a strip of wood-iand when the sound of voices arrested her attention. Not knowing who it might be, Bess drew the folds of her long cloak about the light and stepped behind one of the huge trees that bordered the pathway. A moment later several men brushed by her place of concealment, and, halting close by, began a low-toned conversation. Their words were plainly andible to Bess, and the scheme unfolded caused her heart to stand still with terror.

"In forty minutes the express is due," one of the men was saying, whom Bess instantly recognized as a laborer employed about the station, and named Carter,"and all we have gotto do is to keep an eye out that no one interferes with the bridge "till then. The timbers are all loose, and the minute the rain strikes she's a goner. With the money in our hands the thing's done, and who'll be the wiser?"

None of the men vouchsafed a reply, and after a few moments more of parleying they moved on. As her mind grasped the situation, Bess was like one paralyzed.

"They are planning to wreck the express," she murmured. "What shall I do? Father is away and I could not reach the office in time to telegraph. Something must be done, and at once. Those men dare not barm me, and I will save the train. I must:"

The lights of her home shone out a short distance ahead, and toward them Bess flew like the wind. Her mother met her at the door, but she pushed her aside and darting past caught up a covered tin pail standing on the table. Hastily removing the cover, she thrust the red lantern she carried inside and reclosed it. Then, pail in hand, she dashed out into the night once more.

The rain had ceased falling, and, although the wind still howled, driving the sodden clouds before it, the darkness was less intense than before.

Bess apped on toward the railroad, and Bess lighted the lantern and struck out bravely for

Carried.

Bess caught the glance and shuddered Would they forbid her crossing the bridge, she wondered, or try to investigate the contents of her pan? Her voice

almost failed her as she answered, "I'm going to carry father his supper, and am in a hurry. Please be kind enough to let me pass."





passed his lips for twenty-four hours. He lifted a thin sun-burnt hand to his forehead and, shading his eyes from the glare of

the hot July sun, peered down the dusty road. He saw, some twenty rods to the front, a row of elm trees standing out tall and stately along the roadside. With a sigh he again resumed his journey, reeling in his weakness and muttering to himself like a child

At last he reached the trees and, stretching out his tired limbs, reclined at full length on the fragrant

The thick leaves above shut out the hot rays of the sun, and a gentle breeze stirred the straggling locks of white hair and kissed the hot forehead and fevered lips. The long walk over the hot dusty road had been too much for the strength of the old tramp, weakened by disease and the hardships incident to of his limbs trembled with weariness. He closed his eyes and lay still, almost hoping that here, in the cool shade with the soft grass for his couch, might end forever his long tramp. Above his head a bluebird twittered, watching him with curious but not unkindly eyes, and a robbin hopped fearlessly in the grass at his feet; but the old man heard nor saw them not.

Somewhat back from the trees, surrounded by beautiful lawn, stood a stately house, the home of wealth. A tall gray-haired man, with a stern proud face, walked slowly down the graveled walk, through the arched gateway, and up the roadside, beneath the

the arched gateway, and up the roadside, beneath the elms.

"Old man, move on," and the tall man touched the ragged coat of the tramp with the toe of his boot.

The old tramp opened his eyes and stared up into the hard face above him; but he did not move.

"Move on and be quick about it. We harbor no worthless vagabonds here." The tall man spoke sharply and emphasized his command with a vigorous push with his foot.

The lines about the old tramp's mouth tightened. He slowly struggled to his feet and, with one quick glance at the stern, unrelenting face, staggered on down the road. His body was too full of pain and his heart of despair, for him even to protest against the inhumanity of the act which drove him from his resting place.

humanity of the act which drove nim from his reving place.

The tail man watched the reeling form of the old tramp for a few moments.

"What an eye- sore that drunken old vagabond is! He ought to be in the poor-house," he commented, as he turned and continued on his way up the road.

Shortly after the tail man had passed through the gateway a little girl came running down the walk, evidently following after him. Just as she reached the gate, which had been left slightly ajar, her bright eyes caught sight of the old tramp, and like the bluebird and the robin she did not fear him.

"Did you see gampa?" she called, as he was about to pass.

"Did you see gampa?" she called, as he was about to pass.

The old tramp paused, straightened up his bent form, and glanced toward the little girl. There was a dazed uncertain look in his eyes and he slowly brushed one hand across his forchead, as though to clear away something which obstructed his view.

"Grandpa! Grandpa! Did I hear some one call grandpa?" he questioned vaguely. It had been years since that dear name had been sounded in his ears by a child's sweet voice and it stirred him strangely. "Grandpa! Ah, there was once a little girl who called me grandpa, but that was years and years ago. She is dead now, dead," and the old man shook his head sadly.

Something in the face, in the looks of the old tramp, went straight to the heart of the little girl. She

swung open the gate, hesitated a moment, glanced again at the white pinched countenance, and then walking boldly up, lifted her eyes to his and inquired: "Is you hungry? 'Cause if you is I've got a cookie in my pocket and I'll give it to you," and she thrust one chubby hand deep into the fould of her dress and drew forth a large frosted cookie.

The old tramp seized the cookie eagerly. "God bless your kind heart, little girl! I am hungry, and thirsty, and sick, and tired. God bless you!" and he began eating the cookie ravenously.

The little girl watched him, her eyes big with wonder and her face full of sympathy. She had never dreamed of such acute want and suffering. She had thought all the world happy, like herself and the birds.

"You is tired, and hungry, and thirsty, and sick O my, how bad you must feel! I'll dit you a cup of water," and she darted through the gate and ran toward a fountain, which played near the center of the lawn.

The old tramp again brushed his hand across his forehead. Tears were in his eyes and he could not see clearly.

"She's an angel, an angel," he murmured. "Alas!

The old tramp again brushed his hand heross his forehead. Tears were in his eyes and he could not see clearly. "She's an angel, an angel," he murmured. "Alas! if all had been like her, I—I might have been different! I—"

ent! I-"
At this moment he glanced up the roa: and saw the tall man hurrying toward him, swinging his arms and shouting; and back of the tall man a great crowd of men, running and all yelling and whirling their

One of the men gave vent to a coarse laugh as be said, "Guessi fyer father cats all that he wont want any more fer awhile. Wouldn't mind if I had a bit of the great of the seed of the se

"German Syrup

Justice of the Peace, George Wilkinson, of Lowville, Murray Co., Minn., makes a deposition concerning a severe cold. Listen to it. "In the Spring of 1888, through exposure I contracted a very severe cold that settled on my lungs. This was accompanied by excessive night sweats. One bottle of Boschee's German Syrup broke up the cold, night sweats, and all and left me in a good, healthy condition. I can give German Syrup my most earnest commendation."





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S this is a sort of "between month" in the world of fashion, I am going to devote these columns to a talk on morning and home-dresses. To

on morning and home-dresses. To the majority of women throughout the country, these are really of more consequence than the last Paris fashions. There is nothing of so much import to a household as the way the women belonging to it are dressed. A lot of slovenly women will make the neatest house look disabeen put in order in the morning. I remember a story of a widower with two boys who was about to marry again. When the sons were informed that he was going to marry a teacher of some thirty-five years, they both objected. "We don't want any dingy old maids around here," they said. But in less than a month they were in love with their step-mother. Afterward, they told her how they had felt about her coming into their home, and the younger one said:

"We couldn't help liking you, for you wear

"We couldn't help liking you for you wear such pretty dresses in the morning, and always look so sweet."
"And," said the older, "that wasn't all. You

"And," said the older, "that wasn't all. You wear a pink gown on rainy, days and make the house seem bright and sunshiny, even if it pours furiously out-of-doors."

There is a whole sermon in this for many women who are not step-mothers. One of the best inheritances a girl can have from her mother is the art of appearing neat and fresh in the morning, and the habit of "dressing up" in the afternoon for her own family. I remember a family of girls up in Vermont who lived on a farm. They had very few clothes indeed, but these few were always clean with a door at the the condition of the condition



and sensible dress. We give a full description of it, in order that Compor readers may copy or get some hints from it for a pretty home dress. We also furnish a cut of a calico wrapper that any one can make. Ten yards of cloth for a short woman, or twelve for a tall one, will be plenty. Have a fitted back, to come below the waist line in the back and side-gore pieces only, and gather two or three straight breadths into it, for the fullness in the back of the skirt. Make the front fulled into a yoke, "Mother Hubbard" fashion, and finish with a ruffle as you see in the picture.

Now that cold weather is drawing nearer, I want to tell you how to make a blanket wrapper. They are the warmest things on a cold night or morning that ever were invented; and they are invaluable for an invalid's use, one who is able to sit up a part of the time. All the material needed is a single large blanket—of some desirable color. Lay it out flat, doubledone in the stripe on the blanket of the blanket for the bottom of the fronting sack night-dress pattern, and are ingenious, you can cut the wrap per by that; otherwise you had better get a regular paper pattern. Lay the back pagainst the middle fold of the blanket for the bottom of the fronting sack night-dress pattern, and are ingenious, you can cut the wrap per by that; otherwise, you had better get a regular paper pattern. Lay the back pagainst the middle fold of the blanket for the bottom of the fronting sack night was even to fit the picket of the pottern around so as to use the other end of the blanket for the bottom of the pieces that are left. Make a simple rolling collar, and a girdle of worsted yarn, twisted four double into strands, and these again, twisted together, are to be finished with a good-sized tassel.

The Empire house-gown is an extremely desirable thing to have. It can be easily made at home, as it is all from straight breadths, only slightly gored under the arm. The material may be of merino, flannel, India silk, gingham or calico—anything that is soft and pla

or in anyway
your fancy suggests. Such a
wrapper as this
is very convenient to take along ent to take along on a journey where one must be on a sleeping car, or steamboat over night. It is not wise to completely undress in such places, although a great many do; for in case of accident one should be one should be prepared to make prepared to make an appearance suddenly if necessary. A dark blue flannel or black China silk wrapper of this sort would make a good substitute for a night dress on a sleeping car, and looks well enough so that of



EMPIRE HOUSE-GOWN.

enough so that one could go to and from dressing-room in it without attracting atten-

tion.

The pretty dressing-sacks which were so popular a few years ago are again fashionable. They are made of any bright and becoming material and handsomely trimmed with lace. An old skirt can be cut over into one to advantage. Merino, silk or any of the pretty cottons, white or colored are also advisable. Turkish toweling or white silk-homespun, edged with any washable lace, is not only pretty and stylish but becoming to everybody. They are quite dressy enough to wear in the afternoon or evening at home with old skirts.

home with old skirts.

The one given under our initial was made of pink merino half-fitted to the figure and trimmed with a full ruffle of creamy white lace. The sleeves only reach below the elbow and consist of one great puff; but more practical and sensible ones would have a tightly fitted lower portion, coming nearly or quite to the wrist. A white Turkish toweling morning sack is trimmed with black lace and narrow black velvet ribbon for a woman in mourning, but they have the disadvantage of having to be ripped off whenever the garment is washed. A great many women prefer to make their morning gowns consist of a simple skirt and a dressing-sack. The skirt may be made plantly with straight breadths, or may be gored, and it may have a ruffle at the bottom or be left untrimmed. The sack should be finished all round with a ruffle of the same or of embroidery or lace, according to taste. And a more comfortable

house dress cannot be imagined.

Children wear wrappers as well as grown people. In fact, they need them in case of illness or invalidism, and always like them for evening or mornings, in any case. A plain Empire or Mother Hubbard wrapper is the prettiest for a girl, and a blanket wrapper (or robe if he prefers to call it so), is particularly desirable for a boy.

Among the minor items of fashion news are these:

Linen cuffs are again fashionable, used with

link buttons.

The jabot of lace is again in high favor.
Your last year's jacket can be brought up to date by adding a full velvet cape-collar.
Leghorn flats, bent in every imaginable shape, or left plain and trimmed with feathers or flowers, are worn by both ladies and children.
Gold hairpins and combs are very fashiona-

Gren.
Gold hairpins and combs are very fashionable; and the old-fashioned shell comb was never more popular.
Ribbon is used on dresses both as flat trimming and in bows, loops and ends.
Skirts continue to be made plain at the top, with the fullness all at the back.
White silk or fine muslin half-handkerchiefs for the neck, trimmed with dainty lace, are much worn as collars.
Berthas are still put on to all sorts of dresses.
Accordion plaited skirts are in vogue again.
Double and triple skirts will be worn this fall and winter.

Double and triple skirts will be worn this ian and winter.

Black is coming into popular favor again, the most fashionable dresses now showing an undertone of it, unless made entirely of black.

A plainly made gown will remain in fashion and look much better when it is a little gone by, than an elaborately made one.

The woman who makes fashion conform to good sense and convenience will come out ahead in the end, every time.

FACTS-ODD AND OTHERWISE.

Montana has 2,800,000 sheep. Germany had the first savings bank. The natives of Iceland never whistle. A parrot in New York is 80 years old. Corn husks are now made into paper. America uses the largest locomotives. An ordinary passenger car costs \$4,000. Australia boasts timber 1,000 years old. There are 4,965 daily papers in the world. Spanish laborers get but forty cents a day. A horse in Baltimore wears an artificial eye. There are 8,000,000 farm laborers in Germany. The world uses 650,000 tons of coffee in a year. Sahara Desert contains 1,000,000 square miles. Paris is to have an exhibition of aged couples. Paper stockings are made and worn in Germany. Florida's last orange crop was five million boxes. There are 340 species of spiders in New England. In China, the emperor chooses his own successor. The earth's estimated weight is six quintillion tons. Six million people were buried in the catacombs of

There are 1,693,000 sailors in the world in active service. Five hundred thousand patents have been issued in

America. A woman was recently married in England at the age of 101.

Kansas hens lay more eggs than any other State in the Union.

Norway men cannot vote unless they have been vaccinated.

Oculists estimate that one person in four has defective vision.

Uncle Sam furnishes forty-one per cent of the world's silver. A single trip of an ocean steamer requires \$7,000 worth of coal.

Thirty-five countries have been invaded by the Salvation Army.

It takes a million and a half men to work the world's coal mines.

It costs Italy 96,000,000 dollars a year to maintain her standing army. The United States has 80,000 women doctors, and 200 women ministers.

California has raised 720,000,000 pounds of fruit within the last year.

In Germany the state tax is \$5 a person; here it amounts to \$7 a head.

Ten thousand people are employed as telephone operators in this country.

Alaska produced \$1,000,000 worth of gold last year and California \$12,000,000.

A chestnut tree 212 feet through and 2,000 years old, stands at the foot of Mt. Etna.

A single block of coal, weighing 41,000 tons has been taken out in Washington.

Sixteen ounces of gold would suffice to gild a wire that would reach round the world.

They can cut diamonds so small in Holland that it takes 1.500 of them to weigh a carat.

The longest single piece of telegraph wire in the world is in India and is 6,000 feet long.

Tobacco was discovered in Cuba in 1492, but was not introduced to England until 1555.

Three hundred and sixty mountains in the United States are over ten thousand feet high.

More women are employed in government positions in England than anywhere else in the world,

Ocean waves sometimes reach a height of forty-eight feet, but thirty is considered unusual. A single sponge has been found on the coast of Florida with a circumference of five feet, six inches.

There are three cities in this country of over one million inhabitants—New York, Chicago and St. Louis.

A steel ship has been constructed in Cardiff, Wales, with the standing rigging as well as the hull, all of

Uncle Sam makes more paper than any other country in the world. The biggest paper mill is at Westbrook, Me.

A North Carolina turkey-gobbler recently scratched up eight potatoes in a garden and has been sitting on them for several weeks. The astronomer Herschel says that a solid cylinder of ice. 200,000 miles long and 45 miles thick, plunged into the sun, would melt in one second.

It costs more to fertilize an acre of land in England so that it will grow good wheat, than it does to send the product of an acre in Dakota over there.

ODDITIES.

Siam has but one railroad. There are 200 kinds of perfume. Paper false teeth are a late invention. A fence in Australia is 1,236 miles long. Only one person in 1,000 dies of old age. Newspapers are printed in 59 languages. There are fourteen daily papers in China. A 600 karat opal has been found in Idaho. Hats for this country cost \$300,000,000 a year. Oranges are substituted for soap in Florida. Doors in Lapland are never over 41-2 feet high. A female codfish lays 45,000,000 eggs in a season. The World's Fair has two miles of lunch counters. India has 27,000,000 acres devoted to wheat raising. The great ocean routes run over 1,000 steam-ships.



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other pills:

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that every child takes readily.

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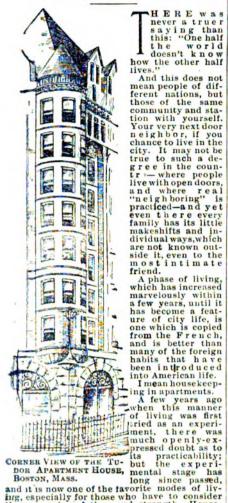
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LIFE IN APARTMENTS.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY ELIZABETH SARGENT

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HEREWS



and it is now one of the favorite modes of living, especially for those who have to consider the economies of time and strength. Householder and housekeeper alike share in the economies, for while it renders it possible for a man to live near his business, it also lessens the burden of care for his wife.

This you will better understand after we have made a tour of one of these apartment houses.

Among the largest and most elegant, as well as among the earlier of these houses to be built in this country, was the system of apartments in New York, facing the Central Park, and known as the "Spanish Flats," in which Mr. Navarro, the father-in-law of Mary Anderson, "our Mary," as all Americans are fond of calling their famous countrywoman, is interested.

They take the name which they bear as a

calling their famous council, they take the name which they bear as a whole, from their architecture, which is that of southern Spain, with a suggestion of the Moorish, and from their individual names, which are "The Madrid," "Navarro," "Cordova." "Granada," "Portugal," "Alhambra," and "The Salamanca."

dova." "Granada," "Portugal," "Alhambra," and "The Salamanca."
They are magnificent, both inside and outside, and are finished with every attention to the comfort and convenience of the occupants.
In Boston there are many very elegant apartment houses, for this mode of living is very much in vogue in that city, but fo historic situation, as well as modern completeness, "The Tudor," an imposing structure, which erowns the summit of famous Beacon Hill, takes easy precedence.

rowns the summit of famous Beacon Hill, takes easy precedence.

It fronts directly on the Common, that pride of the Boston heart, and it corners on a street, the upper part of which is the most aristocratic an the town, while its lower end, "over the hill," is filled with a colony of colored people.

So nearly do extremes meet in a large city.

But up at the Tudor the neighbors on the back side of the hill are not at all in evidence, and the suites which face on the side street are given pretty glimpses of the Common, by picturesque projecting windows and Ls, as is shown by the illustration, so that whether your apartment is on the front or the side, there are always the graceful, waving trees, and big patches of sky, and plenty of fresh air blowing atraight in from the country or off the sea.

And the higher up you go, the prettier the view, and the better the air, so that the upper apartments are the most in demand, and usually the first to be taken.

As there is an elevator to take you up whenever

are the most in demand, and usually the first to be taken.

As there is an elevator to take you up whenever you want to go, either day or night, and as the building is absolutely fireproof, it is as easy and as safe to live at the top of the house, as on the ground floor, besides being infinitely pleasanter. For this reason homes of this character often reach a height of from ten to fifteen stories.

Would you like to go through one of the apartments and see what it is like?

The ring at the outer door is answered, almost immediately, by the bell boy, who ushers you to the reception room or the elevator. The hall is beautifully finished in marble, and a finely-appointed elevator walts to take you to the apartment which you wish to visit,

fally finished in marble, and a finely-appointed elevator waits to take you to the apartment which you
wish to visit.

But this is a tour of inspection, so instead of going
ap it will be more convenient to examine down stairs
first. Back of the elevator is a pleasant reception
soom, with a telephone and speaking tubes to every
apartment. Here you would wait if you were calling
apon any of the residents of the house, while the
attendant spoke through the tube to find whether or
not your friend was in or disengaged.

Back of this is the janitor's room, and beyond that
the back entrance way, with the speaking tubes to
every apartment, for the use of the marketman, the
kee man, the grocer and any other trades people who
some about the family supplies, the elevator for taklang merchandise and provisions to the different
apartments, the iron stairway, reaching to the roof,
arom the cellar, where are the wine closets and storeamons for the various families, and where are the
menesse boilers, which furnish heat the winter
through, and hot water all the year, day and night,
and also the coal and wood, for the entire house.

For each individual is spared the trouble of attendmag to the ordering of these articles, as an immene
supply is ordered by the manager, and each family is
applied by the day, paying only for what is used.
As all the rooms are heated by steam, the only fire
about his needed is the one in the kitchen range,
although many of the residents induge in the luxury
of an open fire in the library or dining room.

And now for the apartments themselves. A visit
some will be all-sufficient, for the general plan is
the same, the difference being, as in houses built after
the same pattern, in the furnishing

Ringing the bell at the large door which opens from
the landing, you are admitted to the main hall of the
apartment by the servant of the family resident
there

pantries, servant's closet, bells from every room, speaking tubes to the lower entrance, and to the mistress's room, store closet with refrigerator, and on one side of the room, big windows, looking off over the Charles river to the Cambridge hills and the sunset.

speaking tubes to the lower entrance, and to the mistress's room, store closet with refrigerator, and on one side of the room, big windows, looking off over the Charles river to the Cambridge hills and the sunset.

One feels as though she would like to stop just here, with that beautiful picture ever before the eyes, and not go away any more.

Surely, that servant's lot is a happy one whose lines are laid in such pleasant places.

Over the 'range is an immense sheet-iron hood, which catches all the odors from the cooking and carries them away up the ventilator above the chimner, instead of letting them stray out into the rooms of the apartment. This hood is so broad that it extends over the gas range which is often placed in front of the coal range, particularly in summer, and takes the vapors from that also.

The kitchen door opens onto the back landing, where is an elevator which is used by the servants and the trades people.

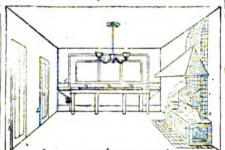
In the upper story are the servants' rooms, heated by steam and lighted by gas, the same as the apartments below, and the store closets for each family, also the drying rooms for use in stormy weather. Above this again is the roof, where the clothes yards are for drying clothing on fine days, and from here can be had one of the most interesting and beautiful views in the whole of this historic city.

Just on a line with it at the left is the gold dome of the State House. Between the two buildings is a handsome block of houses, standing on the site of the old Hancock house, where the first signer of the Declaration of Independence lived.

The house was torn down several years ago—more's the pity—but as many of COMM-RT's readers will be at the World's Fair this summer—I wish all of them could go—they can see how the house looked, by visiting the Massachusetts State Building, which is the exact reproduction of that famous house.

It was a hospitable old mansion; for Mistress Dorothy Hancock was very fond of giving fine entratainments, and John Hancock sent an invitation for the President t

Street. Back of the State House looms up the spire of the Old North church where John Pullen hung the lanterns for Paul Revere as he stood waiting on the opposite shore of the Charles River, booted and spurred and ready for his midnight ride on that memorable April night before the battles of Concord and Lexington. Under the shadow still stands Paul Revere's house. To the north rises the tall gray shaft of Bunker Hill, and still farther on are the buildings of Harvard University, and beyond them the tower of Mount Auburn, that silent city which holds so much of the pride and fame of the whole



A "COMFORT" KITCHEN.

SERVANT'S CLOSET. 4. STATIONARY RANGE.
FREIGHT ELEVATOR. 5. REFRIGERATOR CLOSET.
STATIONARY TUBS. 6. CHINA CLOSET.
7. PANTRY.

7. PANTRY.

Country. To the south are the "blue hills" of Milton, and to the east the rolling waters of the beautiful Massachusetts Bay.

It should arouse every bit of patriotism in the heart of any one so fortunate as to live at the Tudor, as he is surrounded by all the historic scenes of the country; for the history of Massachusetts in the early days, like the history of Wirginia, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and New York, was the history of the nation.

But to come back to the apartment which we left when we took the trip to the roof.

When you have shut the door which opens from the elevator landing, you are, in spite of being in a house with many others, as secluded as though you were in a house by yourself. Indeed, I sometimes think that the opportunities for perfect privacy are even greater than they are in a block. You do not see your neighbors except occasionally, as you encounter them in the elevator; you may not even know their names.

The rents of the first-class apartments like these are from \$2,000 to \$10,000 a year. This seems very high, does it not, especially when you find that you can get a house in the same neighborhood for from \$1,500 to \$3,000 a year. But the difference in rent is made up in many ways. This sum includes heat, the apartment being warmed by steam and made thoroughly comfortable, there are no halls, stairways, or sidewalks to be taken care of, a less number of servants are required, and it does not take nearly so much tless number of take nearly such fire, s sidewalks to be taken care of, a less number of servants are required, and it does not take nearly so much to furnish, nor is there need of so much fire, sluce the water is heated by the bollers in the cellar. The sideboard is built into the dining room, the refrigerator is in the closet, and the range with all its furnishings is in place. There are no large hall and stair carpets to buy, and mattings and rugs take the place of heavy carpets all over the place. You have the panitor's service in removing all the refuse from your kitchen, your letters are brought to your door at every delivery, and there is no convenience that is not yours.

There are no stairs for the housekeeper to go up or down, everything is on a level, and only a woman who has had experience with the stairs in the modern city house can tell how much of relief that denotes.

Housekeeping in an apartment is quite a different thing from housekeeping in a house after old-fash-ioned methods. Markets are near and there is no use of buying stores by the wholesale. It is just as economical and much more convenient to buy in small quantities, for things are fresher and nicer when often replenished.

when often replenished.

Then there are so many ways of making labor lighter. Perhaps your cook has taken it into her head to go away without notice. What do you do? Well, you don't sit down and cry, nor do you tire yourself out by trying to take her place. Not a bit of it. You just press the electric button and ask the jaintor to call a messenger boy if you do not feel like taking the pleasant walk across the Common yourself, and you send him with a list to the Woman's Educational and Industrial Union, and he comes back with the most delicious roils and bread that you ever tasted, some lobster-cullets all ready to fry some nice chicken patties coid meat of any I here is a parlor or reception room, dining room.

Since or four sleeping rooms, and a model kitchen, to fry some size chicken patties cold meet of any kind you may chose and a loaf of real old fashioned

sponge, pound or election cake, some Charlotte Russe, and some of the most delicate fishballs, for the morning breakfast.

Blessed be the Woman's Union, is probably what you say, as have hundreds of women before you. You don't bother with coal, you just light the gas range, put over the kettle of fat, put your cullets in a frying basket and when the fat is hot you fry them. In the meantime the chicken patties are warming in the oven, the water is boiled for tea or coffee, and there is a delicious Bohemian lunch, dinner, supper, what you will, and no thanks to the cook.

But it is not only the risk who can avoid the

dinner, supper, what you will, and no thanks to the cook.

But it is not only the rich who can avail them selves of the modern ways of living. I wish I had time to take you down into the crowded part of the city, where the poorer classes have to herd together, and show you the beginning of a beautiful work that Mrs. Alice Lincoln, one of the rica, and fashionable women of Boston, is doing. She has begun to build model houses on the apartment plan for the working men and women who can afford but small rents. For \$10 to \$15 a month, according to the number of rooms, a comfortable apartment, light, airy, and clean, with such conveniences as they require, can be hired in these buildings.

You can hardly imagine what a power for improvement and morality these buildings have become. Others are to be built, for Mrs. Lincoln's success has been so marvelous that others are beginning to think of emulating her. It will be all right if those who follow bring the same spirit into it which she has.

And all the way between the limits set by the first-

has.

And all the way between the limits set by the first-class apartments and Mrs. Lincoln's model houses, are homes for all classes and all purses. You have only to know just what you want and what you can afford to pay for it, and you may find it, not only in New York and Boston, but in every large city in the Union. For with the immense growth of cities and consequent increase of population, the present tendency of the American family of every station is to keep house "in a flat."

ODDITIES.

A Greenland whale's heart is one yard in diameter. "God Save the Queen" is sung in twenty languages. Sixty thousand people in Ireland speak Irish only. Sixty-four members of the present U. S. Senate are

In one town in North Carolina there are seven men over 108 years old.

Electricity, applied by an electro-static machine, is the latest cure for toothache.

Fly-rods costing as high as \$400 are offered by a New York fishing-tackle dealer.

A horse cats nine times its weight in one year; a cow nine times, and an ox six times.

Two Indiana farmers have just spent three hun-dred dollars in litigation over a two dollar hog. One salt mine in Austria is five hundred miles ong twenty miles broad and twelve hundred feet

A Guatemala mother gives her consent to her daughter's marriage, by belaboring her with a heavy stick.

The first national bank note issued by the govern-ment, dated Dec. 21, 1863, is owned by a citizen of Concord, N. H.

Ninety-four hearts were made to beat as one in a single day, recently, at Pittsburg, Pa. At least, there were 47 weddings.

The new Cunard steamer, the Campania, is the largest and finest merchant vessel now affoat. She carries two thousand passengers.

The largest shad ever taken in American waters was caught in Delaware Bay recently, and weighed ten pounds. It was 27 inches long.

A natural bridge of chalcedouy exists in Arizona. It is formed of a tree which fell in remote ages across a stream, and since became agalized.

A leading lawyer states that it costs \$17,000 to have an article patented all over the world, and requires sixty-four patents.

The body of a woman buried twenty-five years ago in New York, was recently exhumed and found to be thoroughly petrified. Lord Lorne gets a salary of \$6,000 a year as governor of Windsor Castle. His principal work lies in signing a quarterly receipt for his check.

in signing a quarterly receipt for his check.

An orange-seed, which was swallowed by a Delaware man two years ago, sprouted, and in trying to grow, caused an abscess which ended the man's life.

One sunflower plant bears four thousand seeds, a poppy has thirty-two thousand and the tobacco plant seventy thousand three hundred and twenty.

The oldest known ship was found by Norwegians in 1880, buried near a flord. It is a national relic, and the Viking ship, now at the World's Fair, is modelled after it.

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER. O

if you're a weak or ailing woman: -that there's only one medicine so sure to help you that it can be guaranteed. It's Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. building up over-worked, feeble,

ON

delicate women, or in any "female complaint" or weakness, if it ever fails to benefit or

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CATARRH CURED.

the nose? If so, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Coryza Remedy Co., 1327 Columbus Ave, New York, and you will receive a recipe free of charge that will cure you of this dreadful disease.

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Takes place of sinker on fish line. Has strong spring trigger so arranged that the bite of a fish jerks hook into its jaws, catches him every time. Worth its weight in gold. Samples by mail, 30 cents: 5 for \$1. Catalogue, guns, revolvers, violins, organs, Magic Tricks, free.

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AGENTS \$50 to \$100 WEEK ard Gents. Best seller known, Need-very house, place of business or farm yearround. "Home" Riertic Motor sall kindsoflight machinery. Cheap-weron earth. Connected instantly to or sewing machine, corn sheller, s, fans, lathes, jewelers' or Angeler, bluery, & Standard Stan





ELASTIC TRUSS It is easy, durable and cheap. Sent by mail. Circula free. EGGLESTON TRUSS CO., CHICAGO, ILL.

SURELY CURED.

To the Editor—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy free to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their express and post office address. T. A. Slocum, M.C., 183 Pearl St., New York.

COSTS ONLY 15 CTS. H TAKE IT TO MONEY SAVED. THE WORLD'S FAIR. ALL OBJECTIONS AT LAST OVER-COME. UTILITY AND DURA-BILITY COMBINED. This elegant Bright Metal Purse is made entirely of in-

terwoven steel rings with neat chain handle and ball clasp; they will last a life time and are suitable for men, women and children to carry all kinds of money in. It will easily hold \$25.00 in small bills and change, is twice as large as picture, 5x24 inches. Takes up hardly any room when empty, collapsing into a space of 1x21 Inches, and are very

neat, strong and pretty. A great seller with agents, 51:00 per dozen, 20 cents additional for postage or express. Sample sent free

postpaid, to 3 months 15 cent trial subscribers.
Address, COMFORT, Box P., Augusta, Mo





YOUR FUTURE REVEALED. Send your name and address to Box A 1692, Boston, Mass., for free book, which tells you how to read your own fortune.

Reliable Women Wanted to establish Corset per month and expenses. \$3 SAMPLE FREE. Send IS cents postage for sample and terms. Nichols Mfg. Co., 378 Canal St., New York.

GOITRE QUINSY and other Throat diseases cured by the Medicated Throat Bandage. Write at once to Physicians' Remedy Co. Cincinnati, O.

NOVELTIES ACENTS Convertible Wire Baskets, Handy Button, Self-threading Needle & many others. Catalog sent free C. Cassgreen Mfg. Co., 134 Van Buren St., Chicago,

TEACH BY MAIL CRAYON PORTRAIT guarantee to teach anyone who can read and write to aints Life Size Crayon Portraitin 4 lessons by a new nethod. Send 50c in silver, postal note or money order and stamp for particulars. Address for first lesson or send stamp for particulars. Address H. A. GRIPP, German Artist, Tyrone, Pa.



customer dreds speak likewise. Address an orders, KIRTLAND BROS. & CO., 62 Fulton St., R.Z

REMNANTS FOR CRAZY PATCHWORK ART in needle-work is on the ad-vance. We know the ladies delight in odd pieces of



y. so make this internal to the above combined to the above combined to the sorted lots FREE to all who send 25 cents for 6 month apption to "COMFORT" the best Home Monthly resided, or if you send for more than one lot as above troubled, or if you send for more than one lot as above COMFORT PUB. CO., Box 120, Augusta, Bailer COMFORT PUB. CO., Box 120, Augusta, Bailer COMFORT PUB. CO., Box 120, August, Box 120, August, Box 120, August, Box 120, Au

BETTER YET. To all answering this 4d. before 30 days we will also send 6 pieces of elegant PLUSH FREE. They comets. Red, Blue, Green, Old Gold, etc.

One of the greatest discoveries of the century. Safe, speedy, sure Cure for Rheumatism, Rheumatism bropsical tendencies. All cured promptly by this remedy. It has cured hundreds, and will cure where instructions are followed. Purifies the blood and regulates the system. Large bot., 82, 3 for 83, Reg., 81, 32

Cat. free, with ref. Burt Chemical Co., Box 20, Cambridge, 0.

THE DIAMOND COLLECTION OF SONGS.

Over 600 Songs, and Every One a Gem. Words and Music Complete.

THIS BOOK IS A VERITABLE TREASURY OF THE WORLD'S POPULAR SONGS.

"The Finest Collection of Songs, both new and old, ever bound between the covers of one book."—N. Y. World. Over there.
Oh, Mr. Coon.
Old J e.
Cie Pee Dee.
Old King Crow.
Oh, Arabella.
Poor old maids.
Pesky Ike.
Paddy Snap.

"The Finest Collection of Songs

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First love.
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The fairy boyTile Iugleside.
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Tulochgorum.
Tils better so.
Thou art mine.
The tyy green

Every Shut-In who will get up a club of five or more yearly subscribers for Compour at twenty-five cents apiece, may send us ten cents for each subscriber, and keep the other fifteen for herself.

The only condition given is that you must furnish satisfactory proof that you are a Shut-In. Get your physician and clergyman, or two other responsible persons, to sign a statement saying they have known you (and how long), that you are an invalid, unable to work, and that you properly belong to the Shut-In Circle.

Circle.

No club will be received of less than five subscribers, and these must all be sent at one time, together with the amount necessary for the club.

Money may be sent by money-order, postal-note, check, draft, registered-letter, or in postage stamps.

Never send money loose in a letter.

Try among your friends, neighbors and relatives. Your children at school or in factories, or your servant-girls among their friends can bring you names of new subscribers. Take it up seriously, as a matter of business, and you will succeed.

All correspondence for this department should be directed to Sunshine Circle, care of Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

EAR FRIENDS: Many letters have come from you during the month which is past, some of them hopeful and cheerful, some telling tales of sorrow and suffering. How gladly would I heed every request, and answer many of you personally, but this, as you know, would be impossable for me to do. I must take this month the most important points from letters received, and treat them as briefly as possible to give you all room.

HERBERT BRICKER, Bellevue, Pa., writes:
"Stamps are like any other commodity, their
value depends on their scarcity. Very old and
scarce stamps bring fair prices, while the common stamps, even after they are soaked free
from the paper, counted, and tied up in packages of 100 each, bring only about ten cents per
1000—not enough to pay even an invalid to
waste time with."

waste time with."
FLORENCE A. CHRISTY, Madeira, Ohio, writes:
"About two years ago I sold 160 stamps for shout two years alou I have another friend who in one year sold \$17.00 worth. They are used to make up sets. Of course it is tedious work collecting them, but better than letting them waste if they can be put to any use."

lecting them, but better than letting them waste if they can be put to any use."

Other letters have been received giving names and addresses of men who will buy stamps or send special information regarding them. Those interested in collecting stamps, however, and wishing either to buy or to sell them, cannot do better than to consult the advertizing columns of Comfort, where some of the best and most reliable firms engaged exclusively in this business advertize. The Scott Stamp & Coin Co., 18 East 23d St., New York, N. Y., do a very large business in this line, and may be entirely depended upon.

But the money to be gained by collecting the ordinary stamps is small. For instance, for the two cent Columbian stamp the price is three cents for 100 stamps. A thousand, then, when in good condition, would bring thirty cents, just the amount a Shut-In can earn by getting two new subscribers to Comfort; yet some of our Shut-Ins are laboring hard to get together stamps when one-half that amount of trouble, yes, one-tenth, would bring them ten times the amount of money in commissions from the publishers of this paper. This seems strange to me, as I should think it much easier to find subscribers than to get a large collection of stamps. I cannot afford you any more space for stamps this month. I fear I have already given too much, and I will now proceed to other letters.

Bertha Ferren, Claremont, Ill., writes:

"I have been a Shut-In for about fifteen

BERTHA FERREN, Claremont. Ill., writes:
"I have been a Shut-In for about fifteen months, and haven't walked for about one year. I am eleven years old. I can knit and sew. I have a wax doll and I knit it a pair of stockings. I think lots of Comport, and always, read the Sunshine Circle. I spend much of my time reading, and should like the friends to send me reading matter."

MES. S. E. CHAWEORD, Chaffield Minn, writes:

MRS. S. E. CRAWFORD, Chatfield, Minn., writes:
"I have been an invalid 13 years. I know
well what suffering is, and what a trial it is to
be housed, and not able to walk or talk. I had
paralysis, was sick over two years, lost my
mind six months, but the good God restored
my reason for which I am very thankful. The
doctors said I could never walk again, but I
have, and I think Oxien helped me. I have
paid a good many dollars for it. and I think
sometimes I can hardly live without it, but I
find it hard to get money to buy medicine now
I am so feeble. Since I have been an invalid I
have earned a good deal by knitting lace and
pieceing quilts. With all my trials I have
pleasant hours reading my Bible and in communion with my Saviour. I put my trust in
Him, hoping for a happy time hereafter."

N. D. WRIGHT, 201 Bluson Avenue, Evanston, MRS. S. E. CRAWFORD, Chatfield, Minn., writes:

ing is preferred, and, if convenient, enclose

quilt.

MRS. MATTIE A. OSWALT, Little Creek, Haralson Co., Ga., writes:

"I am a paralytic 57 years old. Have been a Shut-In since 1890. I am unable to do anything but sit in my chair at my window, and my patience sometimes gets almost worn out, but I know Jesus will not forsake us and when we have been sufficiently tried He will say 'Come up higher.' I shall be thankful for letters or any religious reading matter."

C. E. MCNEMAR. Fairfield. Kansas. writes:

CALVIN STANLEY, So. West Harbor, Maine,

First, I have received a great many letters in relation to cancelled stamps, letters of information, letters of advice, letters in which requests are made for special stamps, and for common stamps. Truly, as one writer said, it is, a "stamp craze"; but as it is my first object to please my dear Shut-In friends I will give all the space possible to these letters.

Hebbert Bricker, Bellevue, Pa., writes:
"Stamps are like any other commodity, their where the stamps are like any other commodity, their where the stamps are like any other commodity, their where the stamps are like any other commodity, their where the stamps are like any other commodity, their where the stamps are like any other commodity, their where the stamps are like any other commodity, their where the stamps are like any other commodity.

the sisters."

Mrs. M. J. Borders, 25 Ross St., Rome, Ga., writes:

"Have been a Shut-In four years. I enjoy reading Comfort very much and desire to become a member of your Sunshine Circle. I have read your offering to Shut-Ins and think with the help of my children and friends I could get subscribers. I am quite poor in this world's goods but have a strong hope beyond the vale through Him who has opened the way, that even a poor Shut-In may enter the rest that remaineth for the people of God."

We gladly welcome this new member into

that even a poor Shut-In may enter the rest that remaineth for the people of God."

We gladly welcome this new member into our Circle. May you have much success in getting subscribers, and no doubt with the aid of your children and friends you will do so. It will give me much pleasure to hear you have gained a good little sum of money through Comfort, and I wish more of our Shut-Ins would avail themselves of this offer. I still receive many letters asking for even five or ten cents contributions. How much better it would be if these petitioners would earn money for themselves in the quiet and pleasant way suggested to them. It grieves me to be obliged again to say I cannot publish letters asking for money. Let me make these needy sufferers a suggestion. If you have no friends willing to give you their services in helping you to get up a Comfort club, ask some bright boy or girl to go about for you with a specimen copy of the paper, and give them a little commission for doing it. In this way you might soon get a number of dollars. One boy got in a short time fifty subscribers to Comfort—that would have brought you, my friend, a commission of \$7.50. Try what you can do.

Helen Perry, 14 Albion St., Roxbury, Mass., writes:

out nave not nad the satisfaction of an acknowledgement."

I have, and I think Oxien helped me. I have paid a good many dollars for it. and I think sometimes I can hardly live without it, but I find it hard to get money to buy medicine now I am so feeble. Since I have been an invalid I have earned a good deal by knitting lace and pieceing quilts. With all my trials I have pleasant hours reading my Bible and in communion with my Saviour. I put my trust in Him, hoping for a happy time hereafter."

N. D. Wright, 201 Bluson Avenue, Evanston, Ill., writes:

"I have a large amount of excellent reading matter in the way of clippings from newspapers, stories for adults and for children, accounts of travels, scientific articles, religious reading and poetry. I shall be glad to send to any Shut-In who will state what kind of read-

ostage, but do not hesitate to send if not able to do that. I am a Shut-In myself, and sympathize strongly with all who suffer."

Mrs. C. O. would like the address of any Shut-In who can knit fine edging, do tatting, and piece and finish a valuable silk crazy quitt.

any religious reading matter."

C. E. McNemar, Fairfield, Kansas, writes:

"I have been very much interested in reading the letters of the Shut-Ins. I am 27 years old, and have been a Shut-In since I was a boy of 10. I am confined to a reclining chair, and I am unable to walk, sit up, or change my position. I have been lying on my back for 17 years, and have no hopes of ever being any better. My lot may seem a hard one but I do not find it so. I believe no matter how hard our lot in life may be God makes it easy for us to bear. I am contented as long as I have something to read or amuse myself with. I have found great pleasure in collecting stamps and would be very grateful for any kind of stamps, especially the new Columbian, cut out square with a margin. With much love and sympathy for the Shut-Ins I will close."

CALVIN STANLEY, So. West Harbor, Maine,

MRS. Rosa Billings, Rockdale, Chenango Co., N. Y., requests calico pieces for an invalid who is poor, has two children, would like to piece quilts.

F. R. OSEORNE, Athens, Kansas, is a Shut-In nd would like reading matter.

MISS M. McMann, Box 4, Blystone, Crawford Co., Penn., would like letters from friends.

MISS AMANDA DECKER, Latham, Pike Co., Ohio, expresses sincere gratitude for letters received, and regrets that she is not able to answer them all. "May God's blessing repay the sisters."

HELEN PERRY, 14 Albion St., Roxbury, Mass.,

Helen Perry, 14 Albion St., Roxbury, Mass., writes:
"Through your Sunshine Circle I became much interested in Shut-Ins, and thought it a duty and a pleasure to help a little, but I cannot say I have had much enconragement. I awakened a lively interest in some children, who made a beautiful scrap-book for a young cripple and sent it, with letters of sympathy, but have not had the satisfaction of an acknowledgement."

I regret very much to hear this. I can easily

nate ones at least send a letter of general thanks to the Sunshine Circle, and I will insert it as soon as possible; but our letter box is always so full it may be two or three months before it will appear. This same writer states the has sent stamps, nice pieces of silk, etc., and never even heard if they have been received. Also a package of books was sent and a reply came that this particular Shut-In had "no time or inclination for light reading" and would like certain standard works named in the letter.

I do not wish to lecture my Shut-In friends too much, but would it not be better when one is particular what sort of books he or she reads to state this fact when asking for reading matter? Remember, dear friends, ill-health is no excuse for inconsiderateness, but should rather make us more thoughtful. A good writer says, "The great temptation to which we are all more or less exposed is that of losing sight of God in the ordinary actions of the day. It is hard to feel that every action of every day is capable of being so done as to advance or hinder our growth in grace."

Oh, my dear, afflicted ones, read this little sentence over and over, and place a strong accent on the Every. Every action—no matter how trifling. Every word spoken. Every grateful smile. Every little act of self denial. Every thought you can possibly think for another's good. What a field for work—even for a bedridden invalid! Sister Margaret.

Stops toothache instantly, Dent's Toothache Gum. All Druggists, or send 15 cts. Dent & Co, Detroit, Mich.

In Holland, January is known as the chilly month; February, the vegetation month; March, the spring month; April, the grass month; May, the flower month; June, the summer month; July, the hay month; August, the harvest month; September, the autumnal month; October, the wine month; November, the slaughter month; and December, the winter month.

TO CATARRH SUFFERERS

A clergyman, after years of suffering, from that loathsome disease, Catarrh, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a medicine which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending his name and address to Prof. Lawrence, 88 Warren Street, New York, will receive the means of cure free and postpaid.

10 DAYS FREE TRIAL



AGENTS WANTED male or female to sell "Clause Bread, Cake and Paring Enives and Carver" No money required; bignest inducements and easiest selling goods ever offered, Write, CLAUSS SHEAR CO., Fremont, O.

OVER 20 FULL LENGTH FIGURE STUDIES (Specially adapted to Artists' Use), with 1893 list of Uncatalogued Studies sent to any address on receipt of 10 cts. RUBENS ART STUDIO, Augusta, Mame, U.S.A.

Fat People You can reduce your weight 10 to 15 lbs. a month at home without starving or injury by Dr. Clarke's Home Treatment. Proofs, Testimonials Free. F. B. Clarke, M. D. Drawer 135, Checago, ill.

AGENTS ARE MAKING BIG MONEY

• STEEL FIRE PROOF SECURITY BOXES •
FOr Valuable Papers, Jewelry, etc. Write for terms,
SIDWAY MFG. CO., 32-40 SO. JEFFERSON ST., CHICAGO.

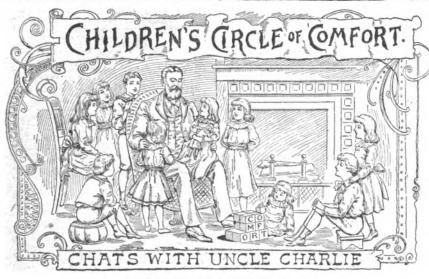
SUFFERERS

Dr. Bacon's Harmless Headache Tablets will surely relieve you. 25ct. box by mail,10cts. J.B. Simas Co., Haverbill, Mass.

A WOMAN'S SUCCESS For two years in have made at Home. Instructions Free to lady readers, Send stamp, (No humbug.) Mrs. Belle Avery, Fond du Lac, Wis

IF YOU WANT To save money on your clothing, hats, furnishing goods and shoes, write for our Large Catalogue, sent free of charge. THE HUB, State and Jackson Sts., Chicago, Ill \$75.00 TO \$250.00 can be made monthly working for B. F.

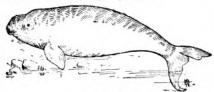
Uncle Tom's Cabin, by Harriet Beecher Stowe, and The forl4cents. F.M. Lupton, Publisher, 106 Reade St., New York



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CHATS WITH UNCLE CHARLIE Proof

PROMISED to take of started the polar bear from careful fair is go to the complex of the olders and the control of the contr



or horn, in front, as long as his body. It is very dangerous to try to catch one of these, as if he comes near a boat he runs it right through man, beast or boat, whichever comes in his way. This one was taken near Newfoundland.



We must pass quickly around this room with its curious shells, corals and polyps, of all colors and shapes, its sponges and sea-weed, to look at the giant squid, which is a large specimen of cuttle-fish. You have seen the cuttle-bone your mamma gives the canary? They come from these fish. See his great long snout with the eye in the back and horns behind it. He moves backward in the water, sharp end first, and propels himself by sucking in water and spouting it out again. He, too, is found off the coast of Newfoundland. The devil-fish, or octopus, is a first cousin of the squid, and is just about as queer. They are each of them eight or nine feet from tip to tip when they get their growth, and are regarded as "holy terrors," no doubt, by the more select and respectable of the finny tribes.



GIANT SQUID.

Let us hurry through this room where there are any number of snakes, toads and other horrid things in great glass jars filled with alcohol, and get a glimpse of all the birds of the world. Did you ever see so many before? Here are hawks, buzzards, ravens, crows, eagles, grouse, owls, ducks, turkeys, golden pheasants, lyrebirds from Brazil, emus from Australia, penguins from the South Seas, ostriches, gulls, albatrosses, a bird of paradise from Guinea, a sheldrake from Europe, and a filaming from Nassau! Do see the last! Tall and slender and of the most flaming red color. Isn't he pretty? Come up stairs and see the butterfiles—all the kinds from all countries. Here are all sorts of beetles, bugs, crickets, grasshoppers, spiders, moths, silkworms and butterfiles. When the sun strikes these cases, they take on all the hues of the rainbow—like the case of humming birds from Brazil over yonder. Hurry along now and take one look at the Cassowary from the Argentine Republic. He is a tall slender black bird, whose long neck is curiously mottled with flaming red, light blue and indigo. And then see the chameleon "living on air, and changing his color whenever danger is near," as OliverGoldsmith said. He really does have power to take on the color of whatever he is on. When he climbs up a gray rock he is gray; if he rests on green moss he becomes green; and if you were to put him on a red shawl he would be scarlet.

But see, it is five o'clock and they are going to close the Museum. It's a pity; for we have seen only one half the rooms yet. But if you have enjoyed this visit we will take another dose of natural history some evening round cosy fire.

A Splendid Free Offer.

A Splendid Free Offer.

A Splendid Free Offer.

We have the best and surest remedy in all the world for the speedy and permanent cure of Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Biliousness, Constipation, Liver Complaint, Sick Headache, Nervous Debility, Rheumatism, and even Consumption in its early stages. We will gladly send a valuable free trial package post-paid to any reader of this paper who will send us his or her name and address. If it does not do what we claim the loss is ours not yours. Write to-day. Address

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They'reto be made—you can make them if you get our complete Instruction Book and set of fine Jewseler's tools. Price of both \$4.75. Sent by express on receipt of price or C. O. D. if \$1.00 is sent. Book alone, \$2.00. Price lists free.

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I will tell you how to LEARN IT.
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can be made larger or smaller
to suit changing condition of

sent securely seated by

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With an occasional lunch of Lactated Food This is the standard diet for babies of all ages. It is relished by them as well as mother's milk and keeps them strong and well.

Send 8 cents in stamps (for postage) for 25 cent
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Dr. LaFIEUS' FRENCH MOUSTAHCE VIGOR grows a beard on the smoothest face in 20 days or money refunded. Never fails. Sent on receipt of 50c stamps or silver; 3 packages for \$1. Beware of cheap imitations; none other genuine. Send for circular, imitations; none other genuine. Send for circula Address, T. W. SAXE, box 122, Warsaw, Indinas.

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\$25 TO \$60 Per week at home writ-ing for THE STEWART CO., South Bend, Ind., U.S. A. Send 4 cts. in Stamps.



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attached, it ear
be put up and taken down or adjusted to any desired
height, from 3 to 7 feet in a second. It is splendid to
put up in the door or on the piazza for an invelid
The children are just crazy to use it for a swing. We
offer this brand-new article as a PREMIUM for a club or
eight yearly subscribers at 25c. each. We will sell it
tor 62c, if 20c. extra is forwarded for postage or express
COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



To every one who likes to fish, either for sport, for the family, or for the market, we will send this Fisherman's Outfit free, postage paid, if he will get up a club of four subscribers for "Comfort" at 25 cents each per year, in advance. Those who don't care to give an hour or two for getting up a club, can have the outfit for fifty cents cash.

Here it is, complete, nicely packed in box.

No. 1. One Good Size Fine Polished Berass Reel. Will will any line in first-class style. Works perfectly or fish of equal size. Incent Hauss or Soline of Guazanteed to safely land the heaviest four, or fish of equal size. Incent Hauss or Soline of Soline of Soline of the same of the complete, with the salmon or blace base. The line will land the biggest fish campit with bair and sinker, or trolling from boat.

No. 4. One Long Cotton Line. Good for everyday in the same of the configuration of

Hooks (assorted sizes). These are best grades of hooks, warranted strong, sharp in points and hards, and hands to use anybody being able to the their line into the ring of the hook.

No. 7. Two Imported Trout Files. They are natural, brilliant in colors, strongly fastened around the hooks.

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and be made larger or smaller of suit changing condition of upture.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE and lands the fish every time.

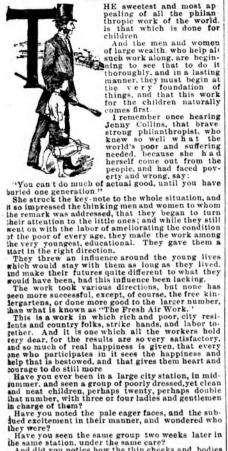
AV. HOLUSE MIG. CO.

Augusts, Maine.

THE FRESH AIR FUNDS.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

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HE sweetest and most appealing of all the philan-thropic work of the world is that which is done for

Have you noted the pale eager faces, and the subdued excitement in their manner, and wondered who they were?

Have you seen the same group two weeks later in the same station, under the same care?

And did you notice how the thin cheeks and bodies had filled out? With what a new light the eyes sparkled, and how brown the pale faces had grown?

Did you see the happy looking mothers, happy in spite of totl-worn hands and faces upon which poverty and hard work had left their marks, who had come to meet the groups and listen to the wondertales that the returning children brought to them of the glories of earth and sky, and the sweet miracles of Nature which had been opened to their surprised and delighted eyes?

Then you saw a band of "Fresh Air" children.

The name well defines the work, which is to gather children out of the poorer parts of the city, and give to them two weeks in the country, in the care of good, kind families, who will receive these waifs of the city streets into their homes, and treat them as though they were really their own friends, who had come for a visit.

This charity was started almost simultaneously in New York and Boston, about sixteen years ago.

In New York the work was begun by the Rev. Wil lird Parsons, who at that time was the pastor of a small church in Sherman, Pennsylvania Indeed this personal work of Mr. Parsons was the first experiment, and the next year Boston wheeled into line to be followed by other cities, until now the "Fresh Air Work" is carried on, to quote its originator. "from Canada to South America, and from Boston to San Francisco."

It was in the summer of 1877 that Mr. Parsons went from his country home to New York and gathered a company of the poorest and most needy children he could find, and took them out among his parishioners, who were waiting to receive them as guests for a fortnight cach, by these kind country people, and that too, without any compensation save the consciousness of having done a Christ-like act of charity to those in need.

From this simp

night each, by these kind country people, and that too, without any compensation save the consciousness of having done a Christ-like act of charity to those in need.

From this simple beginning the large work grew. The New York Evening Post took up the enterprise and for four years carried it successfully on, enlarging its scope every year.

At the end of that time, in 1882, the work was transferred to the Tribune, and has since been carried on by this newspaper, or rather in its name.

To show you something of the magnitude of the work, let me give you a few of the Tribune's figures. Last year, 1892, 15,267 children were taken to the country for two weeks, and 25,560 men, women and children were sent on the Tribune day excursions, making 40,827 poor souls who were given a taste of something besides the stiffing city air.

During the years in which this charity has been at work, 109,317 have been given the two weeks in the country, and 81,550 have been sent on day excursions, at a total cost of over a quarter of a million dollars.

And all this money has come from voluntary gifts There are men and women in New York who have their gift to this charity paid yearly, as regularly as any of their own personal expenses, and they would no more think of omitting it than they would one of their own most necessary outgoes. They do not give meagrely either.

One gentleman, who will not permit his name to be known, even by those whom he benefits, has for the past three years defrayed every expense of the Tribune day excursions. In this time he has given a day's outing to 66,485 people, who otherwise would have been debarred from even this bit of pleasure

Can anyone find a better record?

In Boston the work was undertaken by the Young Men's Christian Union, an organization started by the members of the Unitarian faith, and has ever since been carried on under its auspices.

But, neither in New York or in Boston, is the work in any degree sectarian. Every creed is represented among the workers and among those benefited, and

toward circumstance.

It is one of the most beautiful and far-reaching charities that has ever been organized, and one in which all the world, rich and poor, old and young are interested. The mite of the daily worker is as gladly received as the bountiful gift of the rich man or woman, and does the same amount of good, for it is



the most that can be spared, and often is bestowed at a sacrifice, which gives a sweet value, in the eyes of

the most that can be spared, and a sacrifice, which gives a sweet value, in the eyes of the One who knows what it represents.

Then it is a work which is shared by the people all over the country. The city folks give of their substance, and the country folks open their homes. They throw about these little waifs the atmosphere of affection and care, and they make them feel that there

is a place in the world where they are royally wel-

is a place in the world where they are royally welcome
It is most pleasant to talk to the men and women who give their time in the summer to the work of sending these children away. In almost every case they speak, not only of the physical improvement of their charges but of the change in their manners and of the new ideas of living that they have unconsciously imbibed. And it is this unconscious training that proves of such value

These workers watch the development of their charges from year to year, never losing sight of them after they have once become interested in them and they say that the country weeks have resulted in the complete transformation of many a child. It has gone back to its wretchedness, to be sure, but in hundreds of instances it has returned with head and heart full of new ways, new ideas of decent living, and has successfully taught the shiftless parents the better way.

One of the teachers in the public school, whose

and has successfully laught the shiftless parents the better way.

One of the teachers in the public school, whose children are among the "Fresh Air" beneficiaries, told me that one little girl talked so much of her trip last summer and described the country life in such glowing terms, that her father went to inquire where it was that his child had been sent.

"I should think from the way she talks about it, that it was Heaven," was his comment.

Like all philanthropic work, it is double-edged and helps the doer and the benefitted alike. There is difference in kind, perhaps, but not in degree. And that is where the real good comes. Thoughtfulness and thankfulness are the natural results. One life is broadened by doing, the other is deepened by receiving.

broadened by doing, the other is deepened by receiving.

As an outgrowth of this movement homes have been established at the seashore, where mothers may go with their sick babies for two weeks or longer if necessary, where in addition to the bracing air for the little ones and the needed rest for themselves, they have the best of medical care, and attendance. Usually these homes are under the personal care of the sisters of Saint Margaret, an organization of the Episcopal Church, but the homes are sustained by men and women of every denomination, who give largely of their wealth.

And this is the divine part of the charity, that it knows no sect in its work or workers, but labors for the most helpless part of humanity, the little children in all unity and love.

Mightier Than the Sword.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY MILDRED ALDRICH.

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VERY year, believers in scientific war invent new and terrible death-dealing machines, for use in battle, and each year peaceful science produces some new machine for simplifying the art of writing. But, still, the pen continues to be "mightier than the sword," As it was in the past, and is to-day, it will be in the future.

One flourish of that little pointed instrument has made and unmade and the tables of stone, to that in which Abraham Lincoln freed a race of slaves, as Moses did the Children of Israel.

Previous to the invention of ink, which is very ancient, writing was done on tables of wax with a sharp bodkin-like instrument.

The earliest pens were made of reeds; but, strangely enough, no one knows the name of the reed, although ancient writers mention where it grew wild, and it is still used in some places.

Steel pens were used in the days of Egypt's greatness, and are still used in Persia, Austria and China.

How little change has been made in the use of implements for writing since those days!

Then as now, the pen was dipped into the ink, and ink to-day differs very little from the first fluid used.

Until the 5th century these reed pens were used. Then—although many historians place the date later—the quills of birds—the goose and swan, principally—replaced the reed. These quill pens are still preferred by many conservative people; and there really is something that appeals to the imagination in pointing one's own pen. But the softness of quill pens, and the labor of mending them, inspired the attempt to find a substitute.

The first steel pen was made in 1803 by an Englishman—Mr. Wise. It was costly and inefficient

The first patent for such an implement was granted to Mr. James Percy, and is dated April 24, 1830. In his specifications the steel pen of to-day is accurately described.

To Josiah Mason of Birmingham, England, and the well-known Joseph Gillotte, the perfected pen of to-day is due.

Gold, silver, platinum, aluminum, as well as steel are used.

In 1876, thirty American factories were

Pen.
The origin of the stylographic pen is obscure. It



The next and most radical step toward banishing the ink bottle was the American invention—the typewriter.

Previous to the appearance of the American machine, Englishmen had experimented with the idea. As early as 1714, Mr. Henry Mills took out a patent for such an invention, but never perfected it. Still another attempt is recorded in 1841; but Charles Thurber of Worcester, Mass., was the first to make and patent a successful typewriter, in 1848.

The use of the typewriter spreads every day. It threatens to intrude into private life, to deal a death blow to chirography. Pessimistic prophets see future generations without pens, and note in the fact the disappearance of individuality in literature, as well as correspondence.

Handwriting is more or less characteristic, and a hand-written manuscript always contains some of the personality of the writer.

Still, whatever comes, the signature, hand executed.

the personaity of the writer.

Still, whatever comes, the signature, hand executed, must stand. It will still be the flourish of the pen which will settle the fate of nations and decide their politics, when the sword hangs on the wall as simply a curiosity—only another proof of the mighty power of soul over matter, the victory of mind over physical power.

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The lucky stone for September is the chrysolite, which is said to free it possessor from passions and prevent bad dreams.

September takes its name from the Latin Septem, for seven. It used to be the seventh month, counting from March, which was the first according to the old Roman calendar. Of course it is now a misnomer.

The lucky days for September are, according to a famous English astrologer, the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 9th, 12th, 15th, 18th, 20th, 25th, 29th and 30th-a long list; the unlucky ones are fewer, being the 6th, 8th, 10th, 13th, 16th, 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 27th. The others are indifferent.

People in this age are living at such a high rate of speed that we must, as a natural consequence, have now and then a set-back. At the rate of modern living and manufacture, the real values of things gradually become inflated and the markets overstocked, and, about once in so often, they must naturally suffer a shrinkage to proper sizes. This is always the case, and perhaps it is necessary to make us truly appreciate the blessings which belong to this country. In the present hard times, even, the American people are better off than those on the other side of the world. What with the cholera and the yellow fever in the warm countries of Europe and Asia, the recent food famine in Russia, the despotism in oriental countries, and the over-crowded conditions of things, both physical and material, on the older con-tinents. America, in spite of its momentary depression—a financial state inevitable while we experiment with the tariff and the currency question-in spite of the lack of monetary confidence, America is the "land of the free and home of the brave." We are simply pausing for a new start.

"The golden, glad September" is a most important month to this nation. This is especially true with regard to our young people, although September is not always the most welcome after the freedom and out-door life of the summer. For with this month, comes the opening of school and college doors all over the land, and the beginning of another year's study. September is the great golden gate that swings open yearly on the pathway to knowledge, and nothing can be accomplished in life without knowledge. Education equips the worker for every duty. No matter what his vocation or avocation, the worker must have correct knowledge of things pertaining to his art to win success. With knowledge and a clear conscience there are few loads one cannot carry.

We are living in progressive times. It is difficult for ordinary people to keep up with the progress of material events, not to mention occult affairs.

For example, the advance of hypnotic power is little comprehended by the average person. In France, in Germany, for some years, to practice mesmerism in any form, without a medical certificate, has been a criminal offence. Great Britain has just placed a similar restriction on this mysterious and wonderful power. It is time that America did the same, for, almost simultaneously with the announcement of the same that the condition of the seasone should be brought and put in the yards of the school-houses for a play place for the little ones, it was received with enthusiasm, and the plan was received with enthusiasm, and the plan was tice mesmerism in any form, without a medical decision of the Committee on Hypnotism of the British medical profession, comes an interesting instance of that personal power exerted over a witness on the stand by a complainant in a civil suit in the State of Washington, by which the witness is prevented from testifying in open court.

This is not the first time that the dangerous possibilities of hypnotism in both civil and criminal cases have been emphasized. The matter has its humorous side, but it has also its tragic and terrible side, with which the law must at an early day wrestle.

It has always been claimed that there is a good deal of human nature in man. It seems. that, if the signs of the times are to be accepted, there is an equal spice of human nature in woman. The recent scene in the House of Commons, in which the application of the word 'Judas' to Mr.Joseph Chamberlain turned that dignified body, the representative of the British Empire, into a pandemonium which would have put to shame a congress of Kilkenny cats, certainly proves man to be very human. Nor

has the month been behind in settling that women have the same ability for letting go of themselves.

The other day the Sorosis Club of New York the first of the women's clubs in this country, and therefore well-known everywhere, got so excited over an attempt to elect Lotta, an actress favorably known as a woman all over the world, that they became hysterical and shed tears and called one another names. That was a matter which concerned us as American women, but the recent open quarrel of the Woman's Committee of the World's Fair is quite another thing.

The eyes of all the world are turned on Chicago, and when the women who have been honored by being associated with that Exposition get wildly excited, weep and call one another mean names, it is not on themselves that reflections are cast and sarcasms called down, it is on the sex in general and American women

There may be something exciting in seeing men at war with one another, however undignified it may be, but the tears of enraged women ought never to be gazed at by the public eye.

The deportment of the women connected with the World's Fair has not been such as to inspire any great hope that when the fair sex get all their "rights," the machinery of government will run any smoother than it does now.

Another instance of proving a cat's reasoning powers, says the N. Y. correspondent of the "Boston Herald," has come to light. A lank and underfed but discerning feline in New York was abandoned by her so-called friends and left homeless in the region around City Hall square. Like a sensible animal she proceeded to find for herself a comfortable home, and being, doubtless, a cat of literary preferences, descended upon "Newspaper Row" with that end in view. She went into the World Building, Sun, Times, Tribune and so on down the list, going on to every floor and entering every room, retiring from each one immediately, sometimes under pressure and sometimes against earnest and sincere invitations to make friends with the newspaper people. In vain, however, were all attempts to coax or drive her from her purpose of selection. She went through them all, and then, on the principle of the survival of the fittest, she brought up in room 59, Tribune Building, which is the New York office of the paper with a million-and-aquarter circulation-Comfort-and settled herself there for good and all, where she now lives in contentment and ease. It has long been a proverbial truth that a cat loves comfort above everything else. This one proved it.

SAND GARDEN JOYS.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

Coryright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.



Sea. It was a happy thought of Mrs. Kate Gannett Wells of Boston, this of making sand gardens for the little ones who were kept in the hot city all through the summer, and, for the most part, lived in the stilling alleys and courts of the tenement house portion of the town.

affeys and cours of the week.

There are no play places in these parts of any city, and only the streets remain for the little ones to stay in, outside of their rooms which are too often unbearable from the heat. Even the mother of this district, dulled and hardened as she may be by the cruel weight of poverty, dreads the street for her child, knowing the danger to body as well as to morals.

it was received with enthusiasm, and the plan was carried out at once.

The sand was brought, women were engaged to be on duty at certain hours to take care of the little ones, the mothers were notified that they were at liberty to send the children, and the "sand gardens" became an accomplished fact.

Only the children who would be in the primary schools, and in the very lower grades of the grammar schools, are permitted the privileges of this playground.

schools, and in the very lower grades of the grammar schools, are permitted the privileges of this play-ground.

The older children would interfere with the younger ones, and they can go to the Common or the Parks, when they are not needed at home; and besides, they have the benefit of the country week, which the smaller ones do not have, unless they can be taken to one of the homes where their mothers can go with them, and this is allowed only in case of sickness. As a rule the children behave very well, for they know if they do not they will be sent home, or otherwise punished, and maybe would lose the right, for a day or two, of going to the garden.

There is certain discipline that has to be insisted on, and the child has to feel a responsibility of habit and behavior, in order to maintain the right of the entrance to the gardens. Personal cleanliness is rigidly insisted on, and if a child presents its #£ with unwashed hands and face and uncombed hair, it has to go home and be tidied up before it can be admitted. A child may be ragged and barefooted, (that is due to circumstance and is not preventable), but it may, and it must be clean. That is the first lesson which the gardens teach: that there is a price of admittance, and that the price is within the reach of all. It is a noticeable fact, and one which the Board of Health admits, that sickness among the tenement house children has decreased since the establishment of the sand gardens.

And not only do the children feel the benefit, but the tired mothers are given needed rest from care, and are able to do necessary work while relieved from the responsibility of a fretful child.

This is only one of the ways in which the little children of the poor are cared for and made happy, as well as taught that there is something for them outside of the miserable places which so many of them call home, and that they can do much themselves to make their condition better.

All over the country, from Boston to San Francisco, in the large cities there are carried on free kindergartens, for these children, who otherwise would go untaught.

Two noble women, of large wealth, are especially to be thanked for pushing forward this beautiful work.

One is Mrs. Leland Stanford of California, who has founded and maintains in San Francisco, eleven free kindergartens, as memorials to her son, Leland Stanford, Jr., who died in Rome about seven years ago. Mrs. Stanford has put a quarter of a million of dollars into a permanent fund for the carrying on of this work when she shall have gone to join her dearly loved son.

The other is Mrs. Quincy Shaw of Boston, the daughter of the eminent naturalist, Agassiz.

These two women have done a most valuable work in rescuing from misery these little ones.

In San Francisco, it is said, there is a palpable decrease in the hoodlum element since the establishment of these schools. They have already been running long enough for the influence to be felt, among the children who have gone into the public schools graduated from these kindergartens, and are some of them through the grammar school course.

Some of the earlier teachers had discouraging experiences with the grammar school course.

Some of the earlier teachers had discouraging experiences with the grammar school course.

Some of the earlier teachers had discouraging experiences with the grammar school course.

But the children who make the dearers a lovely, refined girl, as most of them are, was struck in the back by a brick,

nursery in a large city and seen the happy babies there?
Wasn't it a sight worth seeing?
But not nearly all of you have had the opportunity, or, having it, did not think it worth while to spend the time to go, not dreaming what an interesting sight it was, so I am going to ask you to come with me to one. You won't be sorry a bit for having given the time, and I am sure you will go away with thankful hearts that there are men and women who take of their substance to bring light and comfort into these desolate baby lives.

The object of the day nursery is to take care of babies and very small children, who are not old enough even for the kindergarten, during the hours that the mother is compelled to labor. Formerly these children were locked up in rooms to stay and cry all day, or were left to the tender mercies of some neighbor, who would feed them and then think her duty was done, although, poor woman, perhaps she could illy spare the time from her own work to do even this.

Is it any wonder that the children died at a terrible rate?

I don't know whose was the idea of establishing.

Is it any wonder that the children died at a terrinic rate?

I don't know whose was the idea of establishing these day nurseries. I wish I did for I would like to give-their names to you, but I think that the idea originated in Paris, and was quickly taken up here.

They are carried on by private subscriptions, and are under the control of a board of lady directors.

A house is taken that is easy of access by the mothers, and it is fitted up with every comfort. A sunny house is chosen, with as large rooms as the locality will allow.

A matron is engaged, a middle-aged motherly woman who loves children and will have an interest in her work outside the salary she is to receive. She has her home here and the mothers are influenced to look to her as an adviser and helper when they are in need.

look to her as an adviser and helper when they are in need.

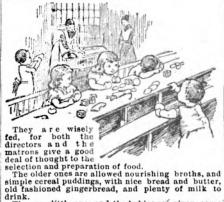
Besides the matron, there is an assistant, and one or two nurses, and a kindergartner; for although the children are mostly too young to attend the regular kindergarten, they can be amused and instructed by some of the more simple gifts and games.

Usually only the matron and her assistant are resident at the nursery, the others coming for certain hours each day.

When the children are brought in the morning, as their mothers go to their work, they are given a good bath, a clean apron is put on to them, and then they are given a breakfast. After that they play about the nursery, which is supplied with toys, like the home nurseries of more fortunate children, have their little kindergarten games, the sleepy ones take naps, and at noon comes the dinner.

And isn't that fun?

Hands and faces are washed, hair is smoothed, bibs tied on, and all who are big enough sit up at the table, and then there is a feast.



drink.

The very little ones and the babies are given some form of prepared food, or milk, such as is found, on trial, to agree with them and produce the best results.

In the older States of the Union, where the necessity of such things are most felt, several articles have been prepared, which are being found of great value.

It is natural that this should be so.
The new States are filled with young people, full of life and vigor, and they have something to do besides trying experiments in infantile and invalid food. They leave that to someone who has more time, and communities with greater needs.

time, and communities with greater needs.

Several "someones" have undertaken it and so the little children in and out of the nurseries may have the delicious Lactated Food that is made in Burlington, Vermont, and on which they thrive wonderfully, as thousands of mothers, nurses and physicians cheerfully testify; or if they want milk only without any solid substance with it, they may have the pure milk of Aroostook county, Maine, known as the "Baby Brand," or even, the goat's milk from far away Switzerland.

And not only are they given such healthful food, but they are taught little lessons in behavior, that are of great importance. For they do not easily forget them, and they will insist at home on doing just what they are made to do at the nursery.

After the dinner, comes more play, and another nap, and when the mother returns at night for her child after a day of toil, she finds a happy, well-fed baby, who does not weary the already over-tired woman by fretting, but rests her with its sweet ways and playfulness.

The children soon learn to love the nursery, and they know their own seats at the table, their own little aprons, and they claim their favorie toys, just a children do everywhere.

They are contented, happy, and well-cared for.

Who will say that the next generation should not be composed of better men and women, when it is seen what is being done for the little ones of every condition?

HAPPENINGS.

Twelve Cherokee Indian girls recently supplied the music at an evening service in a New York church.

While a man was swimming in a Pennsylvania creek, an immense eel, three feet long, wound liself about his legs and nearly drowned him.

In spite of the claim that sonambulists never injure themselves, an Illinois farmer walked out of a second story window in his sleep recently, and killed himself.

This is the hop-season at the seaside and mountain resorts. But many Comfort readers will be glad to know that the hop-crop—of a more substantial nature — will be exceptionally good.

A gentleman from New York went fishing up in the Adirondack region lately, and after catching three frogs and wading in the mud up to his kneed caught on his hook, a crane measuring 5 ft., 10 inches from tip to tip. A long struggle ensued, in which the bird was drowned.

A new sea-going vessel, which would weigh 4,500 tons if made of ordinary material, is of aluminum, and weighs but 2,500 tons. It has just been completed in France, and is the first of its kind. If it proves a success it will revolutionize the whole theory of ship-building.

In view of the tightness of the money-market, the town of Whiting, Indiana, witnessed a strange sight on August 19th. A train containing \$250,000 in gold coins was wrecked there, and the car which held he gold was burst open scattering the money in every direction. A fire department and a police force were on hand, however, and the entire amount was saved.

Driving the Brain

at the expense of the Body. While we drive the brain we must build up the body. Exercise, pure air -foods that



make healthy flesh-refreshing sleep-such are methods. When loss of flesh, strength and nerve become apparent your physician will doubtless tell you that the quickest builder of all three is

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EDITOR'S NOTE. The following rules govern the publication of matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular ribers to Comfort, and every contribution must be writer's own name and post office address in full.

the writer's own name and post office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may reach 650. Contributors must write on one side of their paper only.

Every month a number of prize monograms composed of the writer's initials, will be awarded to those sending the best contributions. These monograms, which will be most desirable ornaments for stationery, cards, etc., will be printed in connection with the respective letters, and new electrotypes of same will be mailed, post paid, to the prize winners.

\$10 CASH PRIZES \$10

In addition to the foregoing, the following cash prizes will be paid monthly:

1st. For the best original letter
2nd. "second best original letter,
3rd. "third"
4th. "fourth ""
5th. "fifth ""

Competitors for these monthly cash prizes must bring at least one new Cousin into the Compost circle: that is, they must send one new subscriber with each letter, together with 25 cents for a yearly subscription.

These cash prizes will be announced monthly in this department.

All communications must be addressed.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

PRZE-MONOGRAM WINNERS FOR SEPTEMBER.

Annie Clare Tobler, Nelson W. Morton, Pauline Torrey, Fannie A. Edwards, Helen L. Pearson, Laura Marie Deane.

EAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES.

So many of the Cousins are making inquiries in regard to the collection and disposal of cancelled postage stamps, that I want to say to them all right here, that it is impossible for us to give names privately of dealers, or the prices they pay. Some of the most reliable ild coin and stamp dealers in the country advertise in Comport regularly; so, instead of writing to us, you need only to look over our advertising columns and write to the dealers themselves for information and catalogues. If you do not find it in any particular number, look over your back numbers. I will say, however, that large collections of old stamps, cut out carefully and not mutilated, do bring something, and any reliable dealer—such as advertise in Comport—will give you information as to prices and conditions. Don't expect us to know these things, but write to some one who does. Again, I advise you all to save cancelled Columbian stamps and not be in a hurry about disposing of them either. They will only be used this year, and after a while will bring high prices. Therefore, save all your Columbian cancelled stamps for a few years when they will be worth money. And I would advise young persons to make a collection of all kinds of stamps. The effort will contribute much to your knowledge of geography and history and current events. Because if you once get interested, you will not be content to own the stamp of any country or locality without knowing all about it: or the different once of this country and England without knowing who the head on each stamp represents and why. Try making a collection and see how it enlarges your yiews and your knowledge.

Now let us open this big packet of letters and see what the Cousins have to say this month.

Now let us open this big packet of letters and see what the Cousins have to say this month.

We shall all be glad to read this extract from a very long letter which was left over last month. This writer prepares her letters beautifully, and I wish you all could read it in her own writing. It would be a good object lesson for some of you careless ones. She tells of a journey through a country region in Maine.

takes in millions of people from an over tinent:

"It was on the 15th day of October, 1891, that I started on my journey to Australia. The morning was calm and beautiful, but there had been several terrible gales which had driven strong ships on rocky coasts and dashed them to pieces. So, it was with a beavy heart that I stepped from the dock at New York City to sail for Liverpool. 'Did I get sea-sick'?' Of sourse I did. I got so sea-sick that I, at one time, thought my last hour had come; but Fate reserved me for other purposes. We left Liverpool on the 25th and sailed forthe Canary Islands, and thence around the Cape

three hundred miles off the coast. We crossed the Equator at nine at night. There was a dead calm and I felt a very queer sensation pass over me. When we reached Australia our ship was given an order to quarantine on account of a false report about smallpox on board. I, however, managed to escape before the order was issued and landed at the City of Adelaide. I, together with my friends, immediately set out on my journey over the land, and had traveled about one hundred miles when I was addressed by an officer. Instead of feeling frightened, I was very much amused, for I was put under custody, being supposed to have contracted the small-pox. Another vessel had arrived, at the time ours did, which had small-pox among her passengers, and so the mistake was made. I soon convinced the officer of the mistake; but he, of course, was bound to carry out orders. At the expense of the Queen of England, I had the pleasure of riding in a private car to Adelaide. The officer and myself were the only occupants; for I was supposed to have the small-pox. After arriving at Adelaide I was marched through the streets of that peaceful city and conducted to the sanitary officer for inspection. I was asked about fifty questions, and examined; but the result was that the officers found they had made a great mistake. I stayed in Australia about a month and never enjoyed myself better. I saw grand sights, both in the heavens and on the earth. Birds of brilliant plumage soared among the trees, and the ground was alive with beautiful colored insects and fowls. I have always experienced great pleasure in gazing at the sky in the silent night, but I never felt it so grand a privilege as I did then, stationed on deck, bound for New Zealand. One night was clear and trosty and there was no moon, but the stars shone brilliantly, affording a rare opportunity to view them at a good advantage. It was here that I saw the 'Southern Cross' for the first time. It consists of seven large stars, is situated directly over the south-western horizon, and

Here is a model letter from a Western Cousin. He has something to tell us and says it in straight-for-ward and well-considered English:

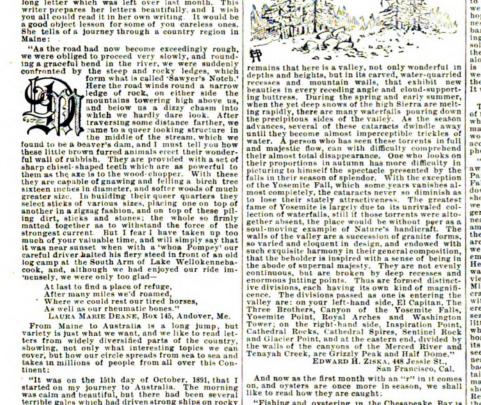
ward and well-considered English:

"From the letters received from Comfort Cousins and for the sake of more history of this part of the country, I will try and tell you about the world's famous summer resort, Yosemite. This famous valley lies exactly in the heart of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and is situated two hundred and fifty miles from San Francisco, two hundred miles of this distance being covered by rail and the remainder by stage. The valley was originally called by the Indians, 'Yohamite,' but the name as now called by the Indians, 'Yohamite,' but the name as now written, Yosemite, doubtless stands, its signification being a full grown grizzly bear.' The principal features of the Yosemite and those by which it is distinguished from all other known valleys are: 'The near approach to verticality of its walls; their great height, not only absolutely, but as compared with the width of the valley itself; and the very small amount of debris at the base of these gigantic. 珊 very small amount of debris at the base of these gigantic cliffs. The domes or the waterfalls of the Yosemite, or any single one of them even, would be sufficient in any European country to attract travelers from far and wide.' No one knows what occasioned this mighty eleft in the Sierra. Whether it was washed out by the streams, or ground out by the ce mills of the glacial period, or whether the bottom fell out, and what made the hole that the bottom fell into, are all points that have been carefully discussed but never settled. The fact

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Laid.

My



And now as the first month with an "r" in it comes on, and oysters are once more in season, we shall like to read how they are caught:

was calm and beautiful, but there had been several terrible gales which had driven strong ships on rocky coasts and dashed them to pieces. So, it was with a beavy heart that I stepped from the dock at New York City to sail for Liverpool. 'Did I get sea-sick?' Of Liverpool. 'Did I g

cooked for their oil and guano. Large boats, mostly steamers, are required for this kind of fishing, and they fish in the ocean as well as in the bay. Large steamers often come to this harbor, Great Wicomico River, near the Potomae, and go up as far as Portland, Maine, near where Comport is published, fishing for Chesapeake factories. Gill nets are used in fail and winter to get small fish. Last Christmas day I saw a net full of numbed, gray perch, hung by their gills, which had been cut out of the ice that day. The oysters are caught by dredging in large boats and tonging in small ones. The tongers plant their shores with oyster shells in fall and let them stay for about three years, when oysters large enough for market will have grown to them. Oysters will grow

A POUND NET.

on most anything. I have seen them growing on leather boots, and in glass bottles in the water. The largest oysters, which measure \$x4\$ inches, are sold for \$1.25 to \$1.50 per bushel in December or January. Oysters are good to eat in any month of the year which contains an "r" in its spelling (from September till May). The harbors present a lively appearance on calm, clear winter nights, when the lights of various colors from the dredge-boats remind us of the city, and the songs of the merry dredgers, mingled with the music made from winding up the dredges, fill the air."

FANNIE A. EDWARDS, Reedville,
Northumberland Co., Virginia.

As September is the month for hop-gathering, this

PANNIE A. EDWARDS, Reedville, Northumberland Co., Virginia.

As September is the month for hop-gathering, this description of their culture will be timely:

"I live on a hop ranch, and thinking some of the Cousins would like to know something about hops, will tell them how they are grown. The hops are planted in rows about four feet apart. When they begin to come up in the spring, they are pruned, after which the poles are set. Near every hill of hops a pole is planted, for the hops to run up on, and they are trained by twisting the vine around the pole asf ar as the vine will go. They grow so rapidly they have to be suckered, or the small vines cut off. Work is done in the hop field from April till the twentieth of August, but from then until hop-picking they are left alone. The hops are picked in September. The people who pick hops camp out, and the young folks count hop-pickings as one of the best seasons of the year. The evenings are spent with parties, games, etc. The pickers have to get up at daylight, go out in the dewy morning as soon as breakfast is over, and pick all day. Women and girls do most of the picking, while men and boys take down the poles and carry them to the boxes into which the hops are picked, and empty the boxes when they are full. It is clean, open-air work, and the hop-field is always gay with merry laughter and soug. It is health-giving work, too, and lots of young people enjoy it."

Louise B. Edwards, Hopland, Cal.

The next letter is on a matter of history, and one that is perhaps not well understood; and that is the

gay with merry laughter and soug. It is healthgiving work, too, and lots of young people enjoy it."

Lotise B. Edwards, Hopland, Cal.

The next letter is on a matter of history, and one
that is perhaps not well understood; and that is the
expulsion of the Acadians.

"The year 1775 was noted for an important event
in the history of Nova Scotia—the expulsion of the
Acadians. Nearly every home in America is familiar
with Longfellow's beautiful poem. Evangeline, in
which the poet describes the character of the Acadians and the scenery
of the surrounding country. Those
who have read this poem are generally in sympathy with the Acadian
farmers. Everyone, on visiting
Nova Scotia, wishes to see Grand
Pre, the scene of Evangeline. The
English authorities had asked the Acadian people to
take the oath of allegiance, which many refused to do.
Probably, if they had had their own wish, the
Acadians would have done so, but their friends at
Louisburg and Quebec persuaded them to remain as
French. The English felt unsafe, thinking, in case
of war between the French and English, the Acadians
would aid the former. Therefore, Col. Winslow was
sent by the English government to Grand Pre and
other places, with ships to transport the unfortunate
Acadians. Arriving at Grand Pre, he commanded all
the men and boys of the village to assemble at the
little church where he read a message from the King.
The unsuspecting farmers obeyed the command and
at an early hour the little church was filled. Col.
Winslow began by telling them of the King's orders,
how painful was the task which he was obliged to do,
and ended by declaring them prisoners and told them
that their lands, dwellings and cattle were forfeited
to the British crown. And that they, themselves,
were to be transported to other lands, where he
hoped they would dwell as faithful subjects. Sadness and grief now reigned over the people. Their
barns, full of the year's harvest, were in ruins, having been burned to the ground by the English
soldiers. The next day they were ma

world-famous. But another Cousin gives us a good account of the latter wonderful and beautiful natural phenomenon:

"At Prospect Park we engaged one of the carriages awaiting visitors, and were driven into and about the Park, and out through another gate, near American Fall. We approach the parapet, and look up and down at this fall, then over at Horseshoe Fall, until our brains reel, and we stagger back unable to gaze longer. When we can again venture near, we look down, and, shining amid the thick flying spray, we see the same rainbow that spans the arch above. Inside this half circle we see a man, like a gnome just emerging from the earth beneath. He proves to be a veritable man, for when we all wave hats and handkerchiefs at him he holds up to view a large fish. Just beyond is the 'Maid of the Mist' at the wharf, looking at this distance like a toy craft, fast filling with animated dolls, in waterproofs with hoods. The boat has two decks—the upper covered with an awning under which can be seen round seats without backs, like a lot of threadless spools a little girl might have placed there for her doilies while enjoying a ministure voyage. Two specks of boats were lashed to the sides of the steamer, with its tiny, turreted prow directed toward the fall that seemed waiting to devour it. On it moves, near and nearer, dancing and curveting, goes closer, dances back, pushes still further toward the pouring mountain, then, half turning on its side, rights about, makes for the Canada side, and leaves its freight on shore to go down the winding stairs in the Tower-Reaching the lower step they are carefully led on by the guide as far as they dare venture, the way being passable seven hundred fee! Try to imagine yourself under that great ever-falling, never-ceasing volume of water! Cover your ears with your hands, and hark to the roaring, rushing sound, and think it the dullest echo of that continual, indescribable roar heard behind those majestic falls, one hundred and suxty-five feet in height! A little above these

Islands. Alighting from the carriage, we cross this bridge, under which the water goes rushing at the rate of eighty miles an hour. Thence to the middle bridge, where it has a locomotive power of one hundred miles an hour; and on to the third, where it has the same velocity as at the first. On we go, among the rocks and piled up debris of past floods and ages, coming upon unexpected groves and dells, romantic enough for the most asthetic. We are helped by the guide from one rock to another, until we are standing well out in the midst of the great stream, almost above but not too near the fall. Here, upon one of these rocks, which look like monster petrified sponges, worn by the washing of the water, we watch its onward force, and feel the fascination to go on with it, that has drawn so many to destruction. As we stood thus, nearly midway of the wide river and looked upward at the down-coming broad expanse of water, we thought we experienced, if dimly, somewhat of the extent of its great force, its grandeur and its power."

LOUISELIVINGSTONSNOW BOOWILE, N. Y.

LouiseLivingstonSnow Boonville, N. Y.

A trip down the Mississippi, the longest and biggest river on this Continent, must be a delightful ex-perience. Read what this Cousin writes:

river on this Continent, must be a delightful experience. Read what this Coustin writes:

"I will tell you of a trip that four teachers from this town in southern Mississippi took last summer through the Southland. Leaving the city of Natchez we took passage in a craft which bore us safely over the turbid waters of the Mississippi. A great many objects of interest met our view as we steamed down the river. The levees had been broken in many places and destruction was seen on every side, as this vast flood of waters rushed restlessly on. Sometimes we passed plantations that had been submerged and the water was standing within the houses. The banks were dotted with cabins peeping from under the water and appealing for help. Great forests of cypress draped with long gray moss, making them look like funeral palls, gave the scenery a more desolate appearance. The boat passed once through a submerged plantation that had been cultivated the year preceding. Such scenes as these met our view until we reached the city of Baton Rouge, which overlooks the river. Leaving this city, drawn by the great iron horse of modern invention, we were soon catching glimpses of a beautiful country. Great fields of sugar-cane, are after acre of cotton, bright green stretches of, rice, and smiling fields of Indian corn, were spread before us in a grand panorama. A lone cypress often stood in the midst of these fields looking like a gray old sentinel keeping guard. Plantation life could be seen in complete perfection. A stately residence rises among groves of lemon and orange trees; or of

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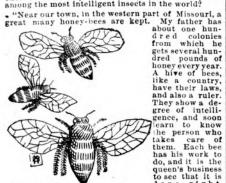
magnolia and live-oak. The sugar plantation gives you an idea of agricultural wealth nowhere else to be witnessed in the world. On every side the cane fields are spread out and are enlarged to the eye by the retreating lines of the plow that follow their course to the distant forests which rise up from the swamp and wave their moss-covered limbs in silence as a contrast to the smiling fields and ever busy joy of the planter's home. This portion of the State is described by Longfellow in his 'Evangeline'.''

PAULINE TORREY, Union Church, Miss.

Here are two letters in this packet, from widely

Here are two letters in this packet, from widely different sections, referring to Longfellow's "Evangeline." Queer coincidence isn't it? But then, you know, the Acadians finally drifted to Louisiana and settled there.

A Western Cousin has something entertaining to offer about honey-bees. Did you know they are among the most intelligent insects in the world?



and also a ruler. They show a degree of intelligence, and soon learn to know the person who takes care of them. Each bee has his work to do, and it is the queen's business to see that it is one of the eggs which in fitteen days hatches a queen. This cell closely resembles a peanut, and is called a queen-cell. When the new queen hatches a queen to the eggs which in fitteen days hatches a queen collected the eggs which in fitteen days hatches a queen collected the eggs which in fitteen days hatches a queen collected the eggs which in fitteen days hatches a queen collected the eggs which in fitteen days hatches a queen collected the eggs which in fitteen days hatches a queen collected the eggs which in fitteen days hatches a puer noise which can be plainly heard on the outside of the hive. After the new queen is strong enough to fly, she leaves the hive, taking with her a portion of the bees. As too many swarms weaken a hive, it is necessary to go through the hive occasionally and cut out all the queen-cells except one or two. The average length of a bee's life is twenty-one days. This keeps the queen busy laying eggs; for, if she should cease laying eggs entirely, the rest of the hive would soon dwindle away. All bees, whether sick or well, must work, or they can't remain in the hive with the rest. In the summer, if one notices closely, one often sees several bees come dragging a lame or lazy bee from the hive. These disabled bees are generally put to death. Last year a new disease are generally put to death. Last year a new disease would swell up as large again as their natural size, and crawl out into the grass to die. We should like to know what this disease is called and a remedy for it."

R. L. Wespfore, Box 154, Pleasant Hill, Cass Co., Mo.

This letter would have been awarded a monogram, if the writer had not signed one name to his letter and another to the role server witer.

Pleasant Hill, Cass Co., Mo.

This letter would have been awarded a monogram, if the writer had not signed one name to his letter and another to the note accompanying it. Of course, if you sign fictitious names or nom de plumes to your letters, you cannot receive monograms; and fielther would a monogram be of any use to you, unless it was made up of your own initials. I am glad to see that most of the Cousins sign their own names in full like sensible young people.

Now, to change the subject, let us read this amus-

Now, to change the subject, let us read this amus-ing account of how a Dakota girl tried to break a broncho:



Now, to change the subject, let us read this amusing account of how a Dakota girl tried to break a broncho:

"We have no scenery to speak of in this part of North Dakota, nothing but rolling prairie as far as the eye can reach. There is no timber except along the rivers, but in summer the prairie is completely covered with wild-flowers of every conceivable hue. I found over sixty different varieties one summer. I have a wiry, briary little broncho pony which had never been driven, only ridden, and as we only had one horse to drive we thought we would break her in.' So we hitched her with the horse into a hay-rack and away they went on a dead run. The first thing Vixen (the broncho) did was to kick over one of the traces, but she kicked so high, and ran so tast, dragging the horse along with her, we could not fix it. You would have thought her, we could not fix it. You would have thought her, we could not fix it. You would stop. But she started kicking again and the two beasts dashed through the yard like lightning and out on the prairie again, the hay-rack bounding up and down and forward until it struck the horses, driving them perfectly wild. Vixen kicked the standard off and it fell on my head. Finally I got them stopped and we unhitched them, and one of the men came out and fixed the rack, and helped us hitch up. Then we came home safe and sound, excepting a good shaking up; but the hay-rack."

These must have been plucky girls with true Western grit. I know I should like to shake hands with them, and congratulate them on their courage and freedom from the nonsense some girls think they must affect. At the same time, I should want to caution them to look out and not break their necks. I am glad to say that the responses to the prize offer in this department have been very numerous. I may glad to say that the responses to the prize offer in this department have been received which would do credit to many an older and more "literary" head. The awards in this cash competition will be published next month. In a

REST FOR THE WEARY.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT.

C. pyrigh, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.

ACCORDING to Artemas Ward, the largest redstead in the world was the one Brigham foung and his seventy-six wives slept on according to the Bible the strongest one was he iron bedstead of Og, King of Bashan. And coording to modern travelers the biggest ones under now are the English. nade now are the English. Abeautiful



A beautiful
English custom is
to present the
new-born child of
the Lord May or
with a cradie. A
massive silver one
like our illustration was recently
given to the Mayor
of Beaconsfield
and Kimberly.
The famous bed
of Ware alluded to
by Shakespeare is

twelve feet square, It was made in the year 1500, and has for nearly four centuries been kept in an inn at Ware, in Hertfordshire. It is of carved, solid oak, and will accommodate on a pinch (and probably a close pinch) twelve persons.

kept in an inn at Ware, in Hertfordshire. It is of carved, solid oak, and will accommodate on a pinch (and probably a close pinch) twelve persons.

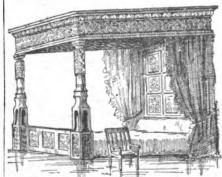
At the fashionable Hotel Waldorf, built by the Astors and recently opened on Fifth Avenue, New York, is a handsomely-carved fourposted oak bedstead, something like the Bed of Ware, and costing \$4.000. It is intended for the use of the Prince of Wales when he comes to America, and is in a room in the suite known as the Prince of Wales Suite. The rate, exclusive of board, is \$75 per day for this suite; but so gorgeously is it decorated, and so beautifully furnished, that this price is not considered exorbitant by those who have seen it.

The old-fashioned "four-poster" is still the fashion in the country districts of England; and both that and the Queen Elizabeth canopy are coming in vogue again over here.

A London firm is making one of the most elaborate beds in the world. It is of mahogany of the finest quality, and exquisitely carved. The four posts, the foot and head boards with the canopy are carved and paneled after the ornate fashion of Charles I. and wear an air of high-bred and stately repose. The King of Siam is to sleep on it when it is finished.

The German and Dutch beds are the shortest beds known, and also the highest: for the housewives of those countries use pillows and feather beds both as mattresses and coverings. Among the natives, no other covering is used; but hotels and country inns have learned to supply blankets for the use of travelers.

The Dutch bedstead with its canopy looks more like a tent, as one enters the room, than anything else. The high-tester has a swan-like curve, over which curtains of old brocade lined with rose-colored silk are draped, held in place at the top by a curiously-wrought metal crown, from which hangs a frill of beautiful old lace. This crown is held in place by four chains suspended from the ceiling. The curtains are looped back against the wall, disclosing a cound-shaped bedstead of polished mahogany with inlaid



THE BIGGEST BED IN THE WORLD.

The Egyptians used beds of a peculiar shape; but the Bible speaks of beds as if they were about the same then as now.

The Chinese use low bedsteads elaborately carved and spread with mats and coverlets, adding a bamboo pillow.

Many readers will remember the Chinese bedstead of exquisitely carved ivory which attracted so much attention at the Centennial in 1876.

attracted so much attention at the Centennial in 1876.

The East Indian uses a portable mattress, which he can unroll at night and roll up in the morning to carry away with him. The Japanese use something similar only it has a most uncomfortable neck-rest in place of a pillow. In the tropics the natives sleep in a hammock, or a mat of grass. Savages of cold countries sleep on skins; and the more civilized a country is, the better are its beds.

BIG MONEY.

Just think of it! \$140.52 made in one week by an agent representing B. F. Johnson & Co., Richmond, Va., and they have had many more agents travelling for them who did equally as well, some a good deal better. If you need employment it would be a good thing to sit down and write them a line at once.

Four masked men went into a house nea ville, Pa., and upon the refusal of the sis farmer who lived there to disclose the hidin his money, the desperadoes bound and ga They then took her baby into another rea-they stuck pine. They then took her baby into another room where they stuck pins into its feet to make it cry. The men who remained in the room with Mrs. Kerr told her the child was being killed, and that she could save it by telling. She would not do this, however, and the rascals were obliged to leave without anything.



LIKE A THIEF IN THE NIGHT, Con-sumption comes. A slight cold, with your system in the scroful-ous condition that's coursed by impure blood caused by impure blood, is enough to fasten it upon you. That is the time when neglect and delay are full of danger.

Consumption is Lung-

You can prevent it, and you can Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. That is the most potent blood-cleanser, strength-restorer, and flesh-builder that's known to medical science. For every disease that has to be reached through the blood, like Consumption, for Scrofula in all its forms, Weak Lungs, Bronchitis, Asthma, and all severe, lingering Coughs, it is the only guaranteed remedy. If it doesn't benefit or cure, you have your money back.

The proprietors of Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy know that their medicine perfectly and permanently cures Catarrh. To prove it to you, they make this offer: If they can't cure your Catarrh, no matter what your case is, they'll pay you \$500 in eash.



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have heard of cases of 20 years' standing cured by him, He publishes a valuable work on this disease which he sends with a large bottle of his absolute cure, free to any st sterer who may send their Post Office and Express address. We advise anyone wishing a cure to address, Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F. D., 4 Cedar St. New York.

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A SILVER CRADLE.

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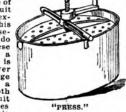
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the content air gets in. The juice or liquid must be boiling hot.

To prevent the jars from breaking, roll them quickly in a pan of boiling hot water, stand the jar in the pan, after the water has been poured out, and fill it while it stands in the hot water. I have also filled the jars as they stood on a dish towel wrung out in hot water; but the former way is perfectly safe. Be sure before you begin that every jar is clean, and that the rubbers are in good condition. It is best to buy new rubbers every two years. Close the jar securely as soon as filled. If a large quantity of fruit is to be done at one time, some house-keepers have a tin wash-boiler which they keep for that purpose; but for a small family a large porcelain-lined kettle cooks a sufficient quantity at one time. A grocer's tunnel is useful when filling the jars. A cup or a small pitcher is needed to dip out the fruit, also a perforated ladle to take out the solld fruit without the juice. Have everything together on a table as close to the stove as possible to save to the stove as possible

It is an excellent idea to preserve fruit, if you have much of it, in different ways to prevent monotony; for instance, grapes may be done in this way; pick the grapes from the stems, look them over carefully, mash cough to get some juice for the bottom of the





richer, and ensures its keeping well.

Ginger tomato is made with green tomatoes in this way: To nine pounds of tomato add nine of sugar, one-half pound of green ginger, and four lemons. Stew together the tomatoes and ginger. Boil the lemons till soft, remove the seeds, chop the lemons and mix with the tomato and sugar. Boil until clear, Seal in glass jars and let it stand three months before using. It will then taste like an East Indian preserve.

all are used. Chop six peppers very fine and put over the top. Take two tablespoonfuls each of allspice, cloves and mustard, and one tablespoonful of pepper; boil these, tied up in a bag, in sufficient vinegar to fill the jar. When boiled, put the bag of spices on top of the pickle and pour the boiling vinegar over it. Let it stand a month without opening.



Another excellent preserve for winter use is spiced crab apple. Make a rich syrup of equal parts of sugar and water; spice it well with cinnamon, cloves, and ginger. boiled in the syrup in little muslin bags. When the syrup is ready put into it a few whole crab apples without paring, and cook until soft, but not in pieces. Then put in a few more until all are done; put the apples into jars, pour the hot syrup over them and seal. A few cloves may be stuck into the apples instead of using the ground cloves, if preferred.

OLIVE MORTON.

ABOUT BUTTONS.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

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BUTTON is first spoken of in the times of Edward I of England. Previous to that time garments were tied in various ways, Originally buttons were hand-made, and it was not until the time of Queen Elizabeth that button making became an important manufacturing interest.

From that time the JAPANESE BUTTON.

importance of the trade gradually increased until the end of the last century, when it reached what might be called its Augustan age, a period which lasted through the first quarter of this century. During that time buttons were employed as trimming, and garments were loaded with them.

At that period manufacturers, of even moderate enterprise, could make from £2,000 to £3,000. or between \$10,000 and \$15,000.

Early in this century William B. Saunders. an Englishman, introduced the cloth-covered button and made a fortune.

In 1825 a son of William Saunders effected the apparently trifling but rather important improvement-the substituting a canvas tuft for the steel shank, by which buttons were originally sewn on. As this improvement was a great saving of the button holes it has been

nally sewn on. As this improvement was a great saving of the button holes it has been universally used on all buttons, save what are known as hard buttons, ever since.

The three-fold linen button for underwear was invented in 1841. Some idea of how universally those buttons are used, may be computed from the fact that a single English firm in one year used 63,000 yards of cloth for buttons of this kind.

Horn buttons were first made in 1845 by M. Basset, a Frenchman. Since then, according to the fashion, buttons have been made of glass, of china, of clay, horn, ivory, and almost any hard substance; while covered buttons are made of any material the dress requires.

The principal button manufactories are in Birmingham, Paris, Lyons, Vienna, in Europe, and in Waterbury, Ct., Easthampton, Mass., New York, and Philadelphia, in this country.

The best glass buttons are made in Bohemia, and the most elaborate buttons today are made in Japan, and are often enormous in size and beautifully carved.

A button has often been used as an ornament. The Chinese Mandarins wear one in the top of the hat as an insignia of rank, and today many orders and clubs wear it as a badge. The Loyal Legion has a red and white button worn in the buttonhole of the coat or waistcoat lapel by which members know one another, and this custom is followed by many American orders.

Many rich people have precious jewels set for buttons. One Recton worns here and cluster of the button.

this custom is followed by many American orders.

Many rich people have precious jewels set for buttons. One Boston woman has a full set of diamonds, and one of rubies mounted in gold settings as buttons which are attached by means of rings through the shank, so that she can wear them in any dress she pleases.



GOOD NEWS FOR ASTHMATICS.

and mix with the tomato and sugar. Boil until clear, Seal in glass jars and let it stand three months before using. It will then taste like an East Indian preserve.

A very good sliced tomato pickle is made in this way: slice one-half peck of green tomatoes, salt them well and let them stand over night. In the morning drain, slice four large onions and put a layer of tomato and a few slices of onion in a jar until



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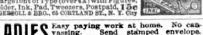
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UR illustrated tea and toast plate UR illustrated tea and toast plate in the June number of COMFORT, called out quite a number of inquiries about china painting; and fortunately a lady from the Sunny South has furnished us a very good and timely letter about this popular art:

"Enquiries having been made of COMFORT for information concerning

mation concerning good methods for china painting, I wish to state that first among t he rules to be observed are extreme care and neatness. The and neatness. The artist must have ability to draw with exact precision the infinites-

ability to draw with exact precision the infinitesimal lines and decorations of gilding. There is a chance that the dainty of precision, and as the decorations depend largely upon the gilding, the artist has better opportunity for displaying his skill. I say this to encourage those who may think themselves too inexperienced to attempt the work, and so deprive themselves of much pleasure. One of the most effective and skilful china painters whom I have ever bet, is almost wholly self-educated. Neatness a bit of her work, one involuntarily existing the self-educated. Neatness and exactness crown all her efforts, and in seeing a bit of her work, one involuntarily existing the self-educated. Neatness are self-educated. Neatness and exactness crown all her efforts, and in seeing a bit of her work, one involuntarily existing the self-educated. Neatness are self-educated. Neatness and self-educated. Neatness are self-educated. Neatness are self-educated. Neatness are self-educated. Neatness are nearly self-educated. Neatness are nearly self-educated. Neatness are nearly self-educated. Neatness are nearly self-educated to require no report of the self-educated nearly self-educated nearl



Royal Worcester or Vienna vase, all your own work, then, indeed, one feels repaid for having made the attempt. The following colors are Royal Worcester or Vienna vase, all your own work, then, indeed, one feels repaid for having made the attempt. The following colors are good ones for the beginners in china painting, Lacroix's mineral tube paints being used. Apple-green, deep green No. 7, carnation, carmine, ivory black, violet of gold, yellow for mixing, deep red brown, pearl gray, crimson, purple, old blue, marine blue, and sky-blue. Flux generaly is used to mix with or thin the paints. Care should be observed in selecting your china, which is mostly imported ware and extremely delicate, for flaws are sometimes found in it which would cause the dishes to break during the process of firing which follows when the decorations are completed. This process fixes the colors, so that they cannot be removed. Many ladies own portable kilns and use them in their own homes, and not only do their own firing, but accommodate their neighbors in the same way, and thus pay for the kiln, etc., with their earnings; and many make it still more profitable. Prices of portable kilns range from about \$50 upwards, and full and explicit directions for use accompany them. Should you not care to purchase one, places can be found in any large city or town, and in many of the smaller ones, where you can send your ware to be fired. Excellent and inexpensive works are written on the subject, and one can easily obtain the books, and I think the entire outfit, by sending to any establishment in the large cities where art materials are sold, together with catalogues, price-lists, etc."

Mas. Laura Belding Farwell, Ward Seminary, Nashville, Tenn.

Quite a good many ideas have come from other Bees, so that we have several more or less valuable suggestions this month.

A binder for Comfort is certainly a most useful article, and Mrs. M. M. Green, East Logan Ave., Emporia, Lyon Co., Kansas, gives directions for making one that she invented—directions so simple that no one need have any difficulty in following them:

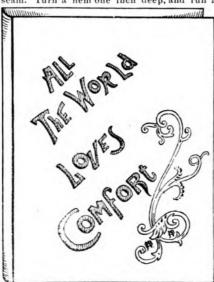
"Take a strip of linea canyas or bed-ticking

tions so simple that no one need nave any difficulty in following them:

"Take a strip of linen canvas or bed-ticking two inches wide and the length of Comfort, allowing a hem on each side. (This is for the back of the thick binder). Cut two pieces of pasteboard the size of Comfort, or half an inch larger. Cover these with fancy silk or sateen, or with plain brown linen, having embroidered in fancy silk with Kensington stitch the one intended for the front side, the motto, "All the World Loves Comfort." The cloth covers can be over-handed over the paste-board. Then sew each side of cover over and over to each side of the cloth strip intended for the back. Lay the first number of Comfort you have next to front cover, and sew it over and over to the back piece or ticking; then sew the next number close to the first, to the back, and so continue until your numbers are all sewed in. If the binder is not full, sew in your copies of Comfort as fast as they come. This binder keeps the papers nicely and makes a pretty book besides. Covers of thin board like California redwood, or mahogany, or other woods, with the back of velvet glued on would be very handsome.
"A shoe-shaped needle-book is pretty and

with the back of velvet glued on would be very handsome.

"A shoe-shaped needle-book is pretty and convenient. Cut one piece of leather, shaped like the top of a slipper, sew up the seam at the heel, bind upper and lower edge with narrow ribbon. Cut a strip of white woolen goods three and a half inches deep, and long enough to go around the top of the shoe, allowing for a seam. Turn a hem one inch deep, and run a



THE COMFORT BINDER.

casing for ribbons; sew it over and over to the top of the shoe. Put a small bow on the front where the cloth joins the leather. Cut two pieces of pasteboard, shaped like a slipper-sole, and cover both sides with flannel. Sew two pieces of ribbon on the under side of the upper sole, one an inch from the toe, the other, the same distance from the heel. Sew twice across to form three cases, for scissors, crochet and tape needle. Sew the sole over and over to the shoe. Cut two or three flannel leaves and fasten to the toe of the under sole, and fasten the under sole at the toe to the upper sole. Sew a ribbon on the heel of the upper and under sole to tie with."

Mrs. C. F. Hyatt, Ventura, Cal., sends several

Mrs. C. F. Hyatt, Ventura, Cal., sends several useful suggestions:

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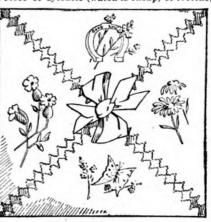
Mrs. C. F. Hyatt, Ventura, Cal., sends several useful suggestions:

"First, a pretty bed spread is made of cheese cloth (16 yds.), and cotton batting (4 rolls), after sewing up the outsides, put in quilting frame and arrange lining, cotton and top the same as any quilt. Then instead of tying, as for a common comforter, work, in button hole stitch, double rings, with embroidery silk, linen floss, or Saxony yarn, of any pretty colors that harmonize—say, pink and blue, or old gold and peacock blue, or have both rings alke of rose color. Have each set of rings three or four inches apart all over the quilt. When sinished, bind edges with braid. The rings can be marked out with a small cup, the size you prefer. A pretty buggy robe for baby is made by crocheting a chain the length desired, double crochet in each chain stitch, break yarn at each end. (Always begin at the same end.) Double crochet in each stitch. To make the double crochet stitch, throw thread over the needle, insert the needle in middle of stitch by taking up the two back loops and leaving the front loop in front of needle. This leaves a ridge on the right side each time. Make the desired width and finish with a large scallop or a fringe. To make the fringe fasten the end of yarn to one side of robe. Crochet a chain of twenty stitches. Join to robe in stitch next to one the yarn is fastened to, another chain of twenty and join in next stitch, and so on all around. At each corner, instead of one chain loop, put five to make the required fullness. This robe may be all one color or in stripes of three or more. The following design for slippers will be found very good and serviceable for those having to be up, off and on, at night; Buy a pair of wool-lined soles, the size needed, to be had at any shoe store). Cut a piece of capte to fit the top. Any old shoe or slipper will do for a pattern. Bind around inside part of each piece, then overcast the pieces (with seam on inside) to the barrel or some othe

'springy.' Line inside with a piece of an old comforter. Cover inside and out with cretonne. Sew a frill all around from the seat to floor. Make a good comfortable cushion and headrest and you have a pretty and very comfortable chair for a little trouble."

Miss Winnie Wills, Virginia City, Nevada

"A very unique and artistic handkerchief case can be made in the following manner: Take a piece of zylonite (which is cheap) or ivorine,



HANDKERCHIEF CASE.

fourteen inches square, and pink it on all four sides with a pinking iron, starting with a round scallop at one corner. Then in each corner paint a small spray of flowers, monogram or other pretty design. When the painting is thoroughly dry, perforate a small hole in each corner and draw a piece of ribbon, about twelve inches long and one inch wide, through each, first tying a hard knot on the under side so that it will not pull through. Then make a sachet bag about seven inches square. Fill it with cotton and sachet powder and place it in the centre of your square of zylonite. Draw the four corners up to the centre, tie the ribbons in a double bow and your case is complete."

Victoria Parent, 44 Sudbury St., Fall River,

in a double bow and your case is complete."
Victoria Parent, 44 Sudbury St., Fall River, Mass., offers the following:
"A very pretty wall pocket can be made out of a common fan. I paid three cents for a fan. It had a gray background. The pattern was a spray of yellow flowers. Then I got a large piece of cardboard, and cut one end pointed so that it would be a little smaller than the fan when opened. The other end I cut round so that it would be five inches above the top of the fan when fastened on. Cover the cardboard with gray glazed paper or cloth, and fasten the fan to the pointed end. Sew yellow chenille along the top of the fan and end at both sides in both sides in loops. Sew chenille over



a thin piece of board 12 inches long and 6 wide and cover with grass green velvet.

Now cover a stain or silk, and line with pale moss-green. Fasten to the board 1 inches long and fasten to the board 4 inches from the box in an upright position. Now take another stick twice as long, bore a hole through the middle and through the top of the other and fasten to gether with fine wire. The sticks can be varnished or left plain. You can make a bucket out of a piece of cardboard, 4 inches long and 11-4 inches wide, by fastening both ends together, and covering with same material as the box. Make the bottom out of a round of cardboard, and the handle out of wire. Fasten by a fine chain to the end of the longest stick. Make a pale blue cushion to fit in the bucket for needles, and put threads and thimble in the well."

A design for Comfort that may be of service to some one is successful.

A design for Comfort that may be of service to some one is suggested by Mrs. E. M. Cory of Keller, Ga. She says:

to some one is suggested by Mrs. E. M. Cory of Keller, Ga. She says:

"Some time ago a large palmetto was set out near the west window of my kitchen. It did well until a heavy frost nipped the bud, then it died, and left a bad looking stump. We planted a white honeysuckle by it, and as it grew, fastened it about the stump with staples. Now, although the stump is ten feet high, it is covered by the honeysuckle and as I have another root of the vine planted about six feet from the first, I Intend to have an arch and let the vines meet over it before the west door of the house. Sometimes a tree has to be cut down near the house; and it leaves a bad-looking stump that cannot be pulled up without considerable trouble. Any reader can train vines in such a way that it will be a 'thing of beauty and a joy forever,' rather than an unsightly blemish to the premises."

Next month we shall announce the cash

sightly blemish to the premises.

Next month we shall announce the cash prize awards. Then we shall see who comes in for a share of that hundred dollars.

Busy Bee.

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I Cure Dyspepsia, Constipation
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A Fortune in a Dream.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY MRS. LORETTA DILLING-HAM.

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Consequently, it was a dream worth telling.

We came to Kansas City ten years ago, my husband and I, and our one fine boy. John was descended from one of the first families in the old Massachusetts colony; while I trace my ancestry back to Holland, through the colonnal governors of Manhattan Island. We both received a good education; and when we married (for pure love), it was with the brightest prospects of financial success; while our position was, of course, undisputed.

It was not long, however, before our troubles began. One day we were almost dumbfounded to find that my husband's partner in the big wholesale house proved a rascal. He absconded, taking with him every cent of the firm's money, and a great deal more. It was soon found that he had forged the firm's name for all it was worth. The house was wrecked; our money was gone, and my husband was prostrated by the blow.

Then we came to Kansas City, where he obtained a position in a similar firm. But illuck followed us. I need not tell the order of our reverses. Indeed, we hore up bravely under them until, two years ago, my husband, grown gray and old before his time, succumbed to the effects of the nervous strain, meagre inving, and the loss of his situation. Every one knows of the great real estate crash and business depression that settled on Kansas City. It brought us to abject poverty, for the few dollars I had managed to earn by doing copying for several lawyers now also ceased coming in and everything was at a standstill.

It seemed to me that the end must be near for both of us. My faithful John had broken down completely. There were four little children now to be fed and clothed. My own health was giving way. Our furniture was going, bit by bit, to buy the cheapest of food. The children were too shabby to go to school, and were growing up in ingorance.

Is hall never forget that one night. I had sat up with John after putting the children to bed in the dark, and he was more than usually despondent. At last he said.

When I crept into bed, at la

bed-room.

I carried in the booklet and handed it to him. But he only cleaned

I carried in the booklet and handed it to him. But he only glanced at it, and throwing it down, turned to hide his disappointment in the pillow; for he had not heard one word from his people for months.

And still I could not speak. It seemed to me that this was somehow the beginning of the fulfilment of my dream. I sat down and read the booklet through, although the baby was fretting to be taken up, and the breakfast dishes were still unwashed.

And then I felt certain that my dream was to come true.

e true. was the confidential pamphlet of a large It was the confidential pamphlet of a large eastern manufacturing company who were in want of men and women to work at home. In some strange, yes, and Providential way, they had got hold of my name and address. And—I shall always believe that a Higher Power impelled them—they had forwarded me their terms to agents.

Perhaps if I had not had that singular dream, followed by that strange, haunting sense of security and good fortune, I should never have acted on the suggestions it contained. But now I could not help it.

As I said before, I read it carefully. I felt

As I said before, I read it carefully. I felt from the first that the liberal cash profits were really genuine, for I saw that the company was endorsed by the mayor, the post-master (whose name is known throughout the land), and by many other prominent people, and I read of the profits which had been said now, when she was told the life peasants



I WENT TO THE DOOR WITH THE CHILDREN CLINGING TO MY SKIRTS.

down completely. There were four little chilts as giving way. Our furniture was given, bit by this obuy the cheapest of food. The child was given and the child way of the child by this to buy the cheapest of food. The child was given to shabby to go to school, and were growing up in ignorance.

He said no more; although I knew he had it it faith in my scheme. A few days later the growing up in ignorance.

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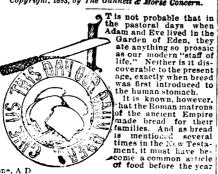
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THE STAFF OF LIFE.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.

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trebled.

In addition to this market trade, bread was sold in hutches or baskets from door to door, by women called "hucksters." This is probably the origin of this word. These hucksters were privileged by law to receive thirteen loaves for a dozen, leaving them a basis for profit; and this is the origin of the term "baker's dozen."

basis for profit; and this is the origin of the term
baker's dozen."
In olden times, all bread was made and baked by
hand process. But within the last half century the
various steam-baking apparatuses have entirely
superseded old methods. For years, efforts were
made to do away with hand work and find something
better. But now that the steam process is perfected,
we have grown tired of rapidity in the art. We sigh
for old methods and are going back to them.
In cities the woman's exchanges are called upon,
more and more every year, for this kind, and the
making and selling of home-made bread has become
a regular industry for women, because it is the belief of many people that there is no other so wholesome, or so good, as the home-made, hand-made
kind.
There is no one article of food so indispensable as
bread. If everything else were taken away, this one
article would stand by us better, without cloying,
than any other.

The young woman who can make good bread possesses one of the best accomplishments in the world.
The ship of happy wedlock has more than once been
foundered on the rock of bad and indigestible bread.

It is more than the staff of life. It is the invisible foundation of health and happiness.

ST. VITUS DANCE. One bottle Dr.M.M. Fenner's Specific always cures. Circular with cures. Fredoma, N.Y.

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of which are named below.

1 Set of 26 Initials 1 inches high.

1 Complete Alphabet.

1 Design Love Lies Bleeding 6x7 in.

1 Design Love Lies Bleeding 6x7 in.

1 Design Love Lies Bleeding 6x7 in.

1 Spray Wheat 3 in. high. (high.)

1 Corner design Fuchsias and Lily-of
1 Bird. (the-Valley 5x5 inches high.)

1 Crescent of Wild Roses and Buds.

1 Design Lady's Bust 5 inches high.

1 Design Sunflower 6 inches high.

1 Design Forget-me-nots 7 inches high.

1 Outline Design Girl 7 inches high.

1 Corner Design Dasises 6x6 inches.

1 Corner Design Forget-me-nots 7x7 in.

1 Design for silk embroidery 3 in. wide.

1 Design Forget-me-nots 7x7 in.

1 Design for silk embroidery 3 in. wide.

2 Design Rose Buds for baby's blanket.

1 Outline Design Man "ye olden time."

1 Outline Design Scoot. Brother, Brother, Butterfly.

1 Des. Good Luck Horse Shoe and Design Crescents.

1 Design for shaving case 5 inches high.

1 Des of time Pattern stylinches wide.

1 Design of shaving case 5 inches high.

2 Des of the Stylinches with cor. 2 in. wide.

1 Design Pattern with cor. 2 in. wide.

1 Design Fattern with cor. 2 in. wide.

1 Design Fattern with cor. 2 in. wide.

1 Design Pattern with cor. 2 in. wide.

1 Cluster Thistores and Grasses 4 inches Mouse.

1 Design Pond Liles 5x6 inches.

1 Cluster Theorems And Grasses 4 inches.

1 Design Pond Liles 5x6 inches.

1 Cluster Theorems And Grasses 4 inches.

1 Design Pond Liles 5x6 inches. l Set of 26 Initials 1 inches high.

1 Spray of Jonquil 6x7 inches.
1 Cluster Roses and Grasses 4 inches Monse.
1 Design Pansies 6 inches high.
1 Design Pond Lilies 5x6 inches.
1 Cluster Fuchsias 4x10 inches.
1 Cluster Fuchsias and Lilies of 1 Chicken.
1 Chicken. (the Valley 7x7 inches.
1 Half Wreath Wild Roses and Buds
1 Butterffy.
1 Existence of the Wild Roses and Buds
2 Butterffy.
2 Existence of the Wild Roses and Buds
3 Design Good Luck 4-Leaf Clover and Large Rose Bud.
2 Ilorscance.
2 Des. Peaches, Leaves and Blossoms.
3 Des. Wild Roses and Buds 4 in. high.
3 Design Cherry Blossoms 7 in. high.
3 Designs Wild Roses and Buds 4 in. high.
3 Designs Wild Roses and Buds 4 in. high.
3 Designs Wild Roses and Formal Palester of the Wild Rose for ThermomDalsy.
2 Let Case 6x9 inches.
3 Design Wild Roses 4 inches high.
4 Palette with Wild Rose for ThermomDalsy.
4 Let Case 6x9 inches.
5 Bouquet Flowers. Grasses and Ferns
6 Rose 3 inches high.
6 Cluster Daisies 6 inches high.
6 Cluster Bachelor's Buttons 7in. high.
8 Design Heathen Chinee.
9 Comic.
8 Bradding Design With Scallops 3½
9 Design Shamrocks.
9 Linches wide.
1 Design 12 inches wide.
1 Design for Clar Case 4x4 inches.
1 Design for Clar Case 4x4 inches.
1 Design for Laundry Bag 7x9 inches.
1 Duck Swimming 3x4 inches.
1 Duck Swimming 3x4 inches.
1 Duck Swimming 3x4 inches.

1 Alphabet 1½ inch high.
1 Alphabet 1½ inch high.
1 Alphabet 1 inch high.
1 Alphabet 1 inch high.
1 Large Butterfig.
2 Braiding Patterns.
1 Şiray Carnation Pink.
1 Suray Carnation Pink.
1 Suray Carnation Pink.
1 Buttercup 3 inches high.
1 Bunflower 6 inches high.
1 Braiding Patterns in. wd.
1 Design Four Leaf Clover.
1 Spray Daisies 6 in. high.
1 Dancing Girl 8 in. high.
1 Design Four Leaf Clover.
2 Sprays Daisies 6 inches high.
1 Poppy Design.
1 Buuch Forget me-nots
2 Sprays Daisies 4 in. high.
1 Pesign Daisies 4 in. high.
1 Design Daisies 4 in. high.
1 Design Balvia 9 in. high.
1 Design Daisies 4 in. high.
1 Design Salvia 9 in. high.
1 Design Daisies 4 in. high.
1 Design Daisies 5 in. high.
2 Designs for Fen Wipers.
2 Butterfiles.
2 Butterfiles.
2 Butterfiles.
2 Butterfiles.
3 Large Butterfiles.
4 Large Rose Butterfiles.
4 Large Rose Butterfiles.
5 Large Butterfiles.
6 Design Pansies 5 in. high.
6 Design Nasturtium 9 inches high.
6 Dutline Design Girl Going to School outline Design Girl Going to School

I Design Pansies 5 in. nign.
I Design Nasturtumi 9 inches high.
I Outline Des. Boy Spin g Top 6 in. hl.
I Cluster of Buttercups 6 inches high.
I Outline I Design Girl Going to School
I Design Swallow on Bough 3x5 in.
I Design Swallow on Bough 3x5 in.
I Design Swallow on Bough 3x5 in.
I Design of Pitcher for tray cloth.
I Outline Design Boy with Bouquet 8
I Clover Design.
I (inches high.
I Outline Design for tidy 6x7 inches.
I Spiray Golden Rod 5 inches high.
I Outline Design Girl 5 inches high.
I Outline Grapes.
I Buttons 6x8 inches.
I Spray Forget-me-nots 7 inches high.
I Design Rose Buds and Leaves.
I Design Rose Buds and Lales of I Frog.
I Level Welley 4x5 inches.
I Spray Wheat.
I Sinches high.
I Cluster Apple Blossoms 4x5 inches.
I Spray Posisies 4½ inches high.
I Outline Design Girl 6 inches high.
I Outline I Roses of I inches high.
I Outline I Roses of I inches high.
I Girl Rolling Hoop 4 inches high.
I Girl Rolling Hoop 4 inches high.
I Design Tiger Lily 6 inches high.
I Design Tiger Lily 6 inches high.
I Design Tiger Lily 6 inches high.
I besign Tiger Lily 6 inches high.
I besign Tiger Lily 6 inches high.

hi. 3 Designs of Roses and Buds.

Scallop Design with Corner. Designs Forget-me-nots. Designs Forget-me-nots. Wheat Design. Carrier Pigeon 4x4 inches. Star.

Carrier Pigeon 4x4 inches.

Star.

Star.

Spray Jonquil 5 inches high.

Spray Violet.

Design for Glove Case.

Design Tulips 3 inches high.

Rabbit's Head.

Design Snowbail.

Design Snowbail.

Design for Silk Embroidery

Design Violet. [2 in. wide.

Cluster Strawberries.

Spray Sumac 4 inches high.

Peacock's Feather.

Bunch Cherries.

Calla Lily 4 inches high.

Design Pansy 3 inches high.

Design Pansy 3 inches high.

Design Horse.

Disses 4 inches across.

Disses May Flowers 5x4 in.

Design Horse.

Dromedary's Head.

Cluster Leaves 4x5 inches.

Clover Design 4 inches high.

Tiger's Head. etc., etc., etc.

1 Clover Design 4 inches high. 1 Tiger's Head, etc., etc., etc.

1 Design Tiger Life 6 inches inches in Tiger's flead, etc., etc.

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A BRAVE GIRL.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY WILLARD N. JENKINS.

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HARLES MORRIL had just sold a tract of timber land for which he re-ceived one thousand dollars. He in-tended to deposit the money at once in the savings bank of Granger City, but he received a telegram which summoned him in haste to a neighbor-



e charge?"
"But it is such a lonely place, 'expostulated

the charge?"

"But it is such a lonely place, 'expostulated the girl.

"So much the better, Lizzie. Tramps are seldom seen in this part of the country, and there is nothing to fear. I'll call at Neighbor Brown's and ask Hattie to come over and stay with you to-night. Or if you prefer, I'll get Sam Nason to come and stay."

"Oh, no, papa, I am not afraid," said Lizzie quickly. "Nobody knows anything about the money, and as you say there is nothing to fear."
Hattie Brown came over, and the night passed uneventfully enough. Lizzie almost forgot the money, but soon after breakfast Hattie said that she must go home. And as Lizzie watched her go down the lonely country road, stories of robberies came to her mind and she began to feel a little timid."

"Nonsense," she said to herself "What a goose I am. Papa will soon be at home now," and she went about her household duties.

An hour later as she was taking a loaf of bread from the oven there came a loud knock at the door. She started nervously, then summoning all her courage she went to the door and opened it. A tall powerfully-built man, with sharp eyes and a ragged beard, stood on the door-step.

"Will you give a poor man something te eat?" he whined

"Certainly," said Lizzie quickly "I'll bring you something in a minute."

"I'll come in, I think," he said, changing his voice, and stepping boldly in by the girl.

"Look here, miss," he went on, "I might as well come to the point without any smooth words. I want that thousand dollars your tather left with you."

"You cannot have it. sir."

"Cannot, ch? We'll see about that," he cried with an oath, and springing forward he grasped her by the throat.

"Don't! don't!" she gasped

"Will you bring the money, jade?"

with an oath, and springing forward he grasped her by the throat.

"Don't! don't!" she gasped
"Will you bring the money, jade?"
"I'll do anything."
He relaxed his hold and said sternly:
"I'll give you just five minutes to bring that money. I don't want any foolery about it. You are in my power, and I'll choke you to death if you don't do as I say. Now I advise you to act like a sensible girl"
"I must go upstairs after the money."

like a sensible girl."
"I must go upstairs after the money."
"Be quick about it then, he growled
The girl left the room, and before the five
minutes had elapsed was back again, one hand
concealed in the folds of her dress.
"The money! the money!" he exclaimed
She raised her hand, in which she held a

pistol.
"You'll get no money from me, sir." she said coolly, "and if you come an inch nearer or lift your hand, I'll blow your brains out! You see it's my turn to threaten now." A terrible oath escaped his lips "Be quiet, sir. I don't care to listen to such expressions." "Are you the devil?" he hissed.

"Are you the devil?" he hissed.
"No, sir, I'm only a frail girl, but I'm not afraid of you."



"I like your pluck, but I d rather die than be checkmated by a gifl." he said bitterly. "I don't see how you can help yourself. You may sit down, and I will do the same, for we may have to wait some time before my father

may have to wait some time before my father comes."

And there they sat full two hours, Lizzie covering the scoundrel with her pistol. The strain on her nerves was terrible, but she had resolved that she would not faint and she did not. At length she heard the welcome sound of a carriage, and a few moments later her father entered the room. His surprise may be imagined. The villian was promptly secured and proved to be an old offender. He was sentenced to ten years in the State prison. And what surprised every one most was the fact that the brave girl really had no means of defence. The pistol was not loaded.

In alluding to it Lizzie said, "I threatened to blow his brains out and acted a lie for two hours, but I think it was admissible under the circumstances." Her friends thought so, too.

This is a true story and the heroine has often been praised for her wonderful courage.

ODDITIES.

Italians in America send home \$20,000,000 annually. Smoking cars for women are run on Russian rail-

The Prince of Wales has a jewelled plume worth \$60.000.

There are 9,000,000 farmers in the United States and 66,820,000 in Europe.

There are 47 Chinese temples in this country, with 100,000 worshippers.

They use the same kind of plow in Egypt now as ey did 5.000 years ago.

A guitar has just been completed in Missouri of over 1,000 pieces of wood. The largest "greenback" in existence is a \$10,000 one, and has no counterpart.

The condor spends three fourths of its life three miles above the earth's surface.

Bacteria are so small that it takes 15,000, laid lengthwise, to make an inch-row.

Potato rot is caused by parasites so small that 2,000 of them can live on a pin-head.

Two hundred and thirty million copies of the Bible have been circulated since 1804.

Revelations 20th, 4th, contains more words than

Ex-postmaster-General Wanamaker carries \$1,000,000 life insurance—the largest in the world.
A mantelpiece has just been finished in Edinburgh, Scotland, of wood said to be 6,000 years old.

The United States Mint building at Philadelphia was the first government building in this country.

A honey-bee in collecting one pound of honey sucks 62,000 clover heads and makes 350 trips to his cells. Physicians estimate that a man 100 years old has collected on the folds of his brain 9,467,280,000 memory impressions.

A colored attendant upon Mrs. Abraham Lincoln during the war, is now a teacher of sewing in Wilberforce University.

Three hundred and fifty million dollars worth of diamonds have been taken from the Cape of Good Hope since 1867.

Hope since 1867.

The Imperfal Canal of China is 2,100 miles long, and connects 41 cities. It took 600 years to build it, and it was completed in 1350.

An average man fifty years old has worked 6,500 days, slept 6,000, walked 12,000 miles, partaken of 36,-000 meals, eaten 16,000 pounds of meat and 4,000 of fish, eggs and vegetables, and drunk 7,000 gallons of fluid.

BELTS AND GIRDLES.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT

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OW that belts are so much worn, a few words on the history of this more or less OW that belts are so much worn, a few words on the history of this more or less useful appendage, are not out of place.

Girdles date back to the earliest antiquity. Sometimes the belt was nothing but a piece of rope, and sometimes it was a costly jeweled affair, but in ancient days everybody, both men and women, wo re them. The early Greeks and Romans, and even the Hebrews who ante-dated them, thought the girdle indispensable. In the early days of the Catholic Church, too, girdles were objects of superstitious awe and reverence, especially if they had belonged to the female saints. In the latter case, they were believed to have power to carry women safely through the perils of child-birth, and were often rented for that purpose, at a high rate, by queens and noble ladies. Most European nunneries possessed one or more which had belonged to St. Margaret, the patroness of married women.

Away back in the middle ages, the girdle was used to carry, attached to it, many useful things, spectacle-cases, and handkerchiefs. The chatelaine of to-day spectacle-cases, and handkerchiefs. The chatelaine of to-day so the first of the control of this old custom Girdles of this sort were often bequeathed as precious heir-looms and were of great value.

Old King John of England had a belt wrought with gold and studded with gems. Edward III forbade any person, lower in rank than a knight, to wear a

and were of great value.

Old King John of England had a belt wrought with gold and studded with gems. Edward III forbade any person, lower in rank than a knight, to wear a gilt or silver belt. Wealthy Commoners wore them in those days and statutes were enacted prohibiting gold-embellished girdles to any one of less importance than an English squire. Henry IV confirmed these regulations; and Edward IV, who came after him, imposed a penalty of forty pence (85 cents) upon the wives of laborers who broke the law and wore gaudy belts.

The phrases—"girded on his armon" to the stream of t

gaudy belts.

The phrases—"girded on his armor"—"girded himself for the fray," etc., all had a meaning in olden times if the old Roman gathered up his girdle, fastening it over his loose tunic, it was a sign that he was ready for business, or had settled down to work; and when he untied it and let fall his tunic, every one knew that he was at leisure again.

every one knew that he was at leisure again.

When an offender was excommunicated from the church, the bishop cut or tore away his girdle. Maidens wore a girdle of sheep's wool, which the newly-made husband took off at the end of the marriage ceremony. When a man went into bankruptcy, he went before a tribunal and gave up his girdle, which meant that he surrendered to his creditors his money, his house, and his all.

nis nouse, and his all.

Nowadays there is no deep meaning attached to girdles or belts. Hunters and soldiers of to day find belts most useful articles. The former carry knives, cartridges and other necessities stowed away in their belts; while soldiers fasten cartridge-boxes, bayonets, cups and many other things to theirs. On protracted marches, too, when hard tack is scarce, they are glad to "gird up their loins" by taking an extra reef in their belts.

reef in their belts.

Tennis players, sailors, and others, at times when suspenders are ungracefully conspicuous, find belts a convenient addition to their wardrobe. Gilt and silver twisted ropes are used by wealthy women as girdles for the house, or as an accessory to dainty evening toilets. One very wealthy woman in Boston has a girdle that is famous both in this country and in Europe.

It is a string of diamonds and pearls—a yard long. Sometimes she wears it around her waist, loosely knotted in front, when she plays continually with the ends which sparkle and shimmer under her white fingers; sometimes she wears it for a necklace; and sometimes she binds it around her head in bandeaux.

Ordinary girls, however, content themselves with

Ordinary girls, however, content themselves with the fashionable belts of the day, which come in many styles. They are made of black and russet leather, of silk, of elastic, and of cotton canvas. jet, nickel, steel, sliver and even gold often adorns them in many different ways. And there is nothing more "fetching" than the belt of the girl of the period.



THE COMFORT BELT.

Comport is very glad to submit the accompanying illustration as a suggestion to its five million readers. It might be made of canvas, webbing, silk, or leather; and its peculiar advantage lies in the piece of elastic webbing which is set in at the sides, allowing the belt to "give" with every motion of the body. Such a belt would be popular with tennis or ball-players. The main thing to look out for in manufacturing such a belt, would be to find some way to securely fasten in the elastic section without making a "bungling" seam. The first person who overcomes that difficulty and patents the Comfort Belt, is going to make a fortune.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for NervousDebility and all NervousComplaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering. I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with tull directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this ochester, N. Y

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Has been gotten up in every conceivable form imaginable, but it has fallen to the lot of a gifted engraver to produce this marvelous souvenir of mechan-ical and artistic skill. Every one is amazed when they come to examine them. What genius and patience is required to connd patience is required to con-leve and perfect the midget conder, are the exclamations eard on all sides. Every childs is well as all adults, should ossess one of these charms, hey are adapted for presents possess one or They are adapted for presents for all seasons of the year, and are the most desirable httle souvenirs one could be wished to be remembered by Although but just placed on sale, the Mrs find it impossible to fill curside orders, so great is the utside orders, so great is the the supply will last at least thirty days; so write at once and renew your subscription as per offer below. Comfort has

LORD'S PRAYER CHARM Heavily Gold Plated. Stands Acid. Engraved in Smallest Space ever Known.

and novel good things in store for its readers the coming season,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

FREE

Lord's Prayer Engraved in Raised Letters within the smallest space ever known. This lovely solid Cold Plate Charm Souvenir is made of Brilliant Coldine Metal, heavily Cold Plated. Stands Acid. Brilliant, Handsome and Pretty as a new Piece of I8-Karat Solid Cold Jewelry.

The Lord's Prayer Contains

Do you think you could get 60 Words selected from this Card in the small circular space! Try it and you will appreciate the Marvellous Centus of this Cifted Engraver who spent years on this Wonderful Souventr. Small as it is, every Letter and Word of the Lord's Prayer can be distinctly read with the Naked Eye.

On Other Side is a Medallion of a Beautiful "CROSS and CROWN," or a Profile of "CHRIST," "COLUMBUS," "WASHINGTON," "CRANT," POPE LEO XIII, "CARDINAL CIBBONS," "Rev. T. DeWITT TALMACE" or "CLEVELAND." A Handsome Present to Old or Young.

Many Ladies String them together and form Lovely Necklaces, Bangles, Ear Rings, Scarf Pins, Badges, &c. LADIES and CENTS Wear them as WATCH CHARMS.

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From Maine to California.



ALL S

MAINE, Norway P. O.—Enclosed find five dollars for which send me Oxien. I cannot say too much in praise of Oxien. It cured my Toyear Old father of rheumatism.—Mrs. Geo. E. Towslee.

MASS, Fall River.—My life was despaired of, but after using one Giant Box of Oxien I became perfectly well and strong.—John Slinn, Gen. Agt. Vt. Life Ins. Co.

NEW YORK, De Ruyter,—Oxien has benefited me moreithan a. ything I ever used.—Mrs. William Sterling.

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LOUISIANA, Lehmann.—God bless Oxien. It cured myjwife, for whom doctors could do nothing.—B. H. Green.

GEORGIA, Rocky Ford.—It is a Godsend to the world. Please send me another Giant box for enclosed dollar.—Thos. H. Stringer.

NORTH CAROLINA, Leggett.—Oxien has done me more good than any doctor's medicine I ever tried.—Caroline H. Hedgpeth.

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FLORIDA, St. Augustine.—For years I was a 'great sufferer from nervous prostration, but now I am well and strong again, and all to whom I give this Wonderful Food for the Nerves experience the same improvement.—Mrs. Ellen E. S. Phillips.

OHIO, Sharon Centre.—For a long time my husband had fits. Doctors could do nothing.—Since he has used Oxien he has had no sign of his old trouble.—Mrs. John Houghlan.

ILLINOIS, Ridge Farm.
made me feel like a new man. It will.—Chas. Buell.

NEB., Howe.—It has done
nine years' iliness Oxien has brought me good health.—Mrs. Wm. Bantz.

MISS., McCool.—I scarcely hoped to recover, but Oxien'has made a new man of me.—W. B. Hull.

NEB., Howe.—It has done
nine years' illness Oxien has brought me good health.—Mrs. win.
Bantz.
MISS., McCool.—I scarcely hoped to recover, but Oxien has made
a new man of me.—W. B. Hull.
MICHIGAN. Dundee.—I had a paralytic stroke January, 1891, and
lost the use of my right side. I spent nearly \$900, but Oxien is the
only thing that did me any good, and it has done wonders. This is my
first trial at writing since the shock.—W. W. Flemling.
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no language to tell how happy and thankful I feel. After twenty
years' affliction Oxien made me young again.—W. F. Rogers.
COLORADO. Highlands.—Oxien cured me of the worst
stomach trouble I ever knew of, and it has done the same for others
bere with similar complaints.—Mrs. Wm. W. Hinckley. NEBRASKA, Palmer.—Your Wonderful Food for the Nerves is doing wonders for my wife. Enclosed find 87 for Oxien.—C. B. Mc-

doing wonders for my wife. Enclosed find 57 for Oxien.—C. B. Mc-Cormiek.

CALIFORNIA, San Bernardino.—For thirteen years I suftered with catarih, but tried your Wonderful Food for the Nerves, and to my great joy am now perfectly well.—Miss Rosa Velasquez.

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One agent says: "In half an hour I have sold ten dollars' worth (or at the rate of thirty thousand dollars' year profit) and still they are coming for it. The Oxien Electric Porous Plasters are doing wonders here."

Not a day passes but what scores of letters like the foregoing reach us from grateful men and women whose lives have been saved by our Wonderful Food for the Nerves, Oxien.

Every hour brings fresh proof that Oxien is the Food which Scientists have searched for; the MEDICINS which doctors have longed for; and the Relief which hopeless sufferers have prayed for. It gives new hife, new hope, new power, new vigor, new strength, new happiness.

It is a Godsend for the weak and weary; and a Godsend to thousands of Home Workers who are making fortunes introducing it to their friends and neighbors. Write at once for free samples and terms to agents and secure your territory.

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50c. MADE IN A MINUTE! If you will agree to show the Lucky Investment Booklet we send you with free samples to at least three feeble persons, we will send you in advance a 50 cent cash cert. This will trouble you but a minute, and as we pay in advance it is well hundred and fifty thousand dollars we are giving away as premiums, lifting many from poverty to riches.

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THE FACE ON THE PANE.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY LOENA P. KING.

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HEN Alice and I were first married the town in which we lived was greatly excited over the lectures of a spiritualist, as only small towns can be excited over the lecture small matters. Every night crowds gathered at the town hall to hear and to see; and when the lecture power and his knowledge of the spirit world or was interviewed by his converts who wished to hear something of that other life in which we all feel so vital an interest. I thought then that it was all nonsense, a weak mind imposed upon by a stronger, even later events have not made me think otherwise nor change my opinion of spiritualism.

One night Alice and I went to a seance held at a neighbor's house, but we neither saw nor heard anything to make us believe. The lights were lowered and the andience sat around the room in a circle, silent and attentive. The medium looked more like a spectre than anything else we saw that night. A pale, slight man, with deep set dark eyes that burned like living coals in a face therwise unlighted even by a smile. His appearance and the subject at hand, the weird look of the shadowy audience seen in the uncertain light, made Alice a little nervous, she drew her chair nearer to mine and as she placed herself in a better light I saw that she was very pale, and touching her hand I felt that it was deathly cold. That was all. On our way home she said to me:

"If I should die before you, darling, if there is a way to return to this earth, in spirit or body, I shall do so. I am sure I shall have the power for I believe death itself could not keep me from you."

She spoke seriously, but I laughed at her and old her that I was not at all sure that I would be pleased to see her, for I did not relish the fear of being haunted even by her. She seemed to take my joking so much to heart, however, that I ceased, only begging her not to mention anything so dreadful as the possibility of her leaving me.

I was sure then that we were happier than the angels in Heaven, perhaps we were too appy and the angels were envyling us, f

There was nothing strange then in the fact that I married again, nor that there was more of self interest than of love in my second choice.

I had known Kate Evershade before I married Alice, but during the latter's lifetime there was not much intimacy existing between them. Kate seemed desirous of being friendly with Alice but a little feeling which she called instinct, and I called prejudice, kept them apart. I thought that Alice was a little jealous because before I met her I had been a very devoted admirer of Kate's After Alice's death everything that was done for me or my child seemed done by Kate's hands. She had never married and I thought that a settled woman of twenty-eight or thirty would make a better mother for my little boy than a giddy girl or a widow with children of her own. Kate evidently thought so too for I found little difficulty in persuading her to undertake the office.

I congratulated myself on my good sense and judgment, but my calm frame of mind was nearly upset by a strange incident the night before the wedding. Dream or vision. I know not which. I usually sat on the gallery after supper to smoke while Aunt Mary put little Oscar to bed. I had just finished my cigar and was about making a move to go to spend my last evening with "Miss Evershade" when I felt an arm thrown around me, I attempted to get up but the arm held me fast, I could feel its pressure, but my whole strength was not sufficient to loose its hold; I was fully convinced that I was awake but I could not see anything about me nor move hand nor foot.

At last I felt my head turned by the same unsen power, and for one moment I looked into Alice's eyes, her face was close to mine and her long hair fell over my shoulders, only an instant, then she was gone. I did not go to see my expectant bride that evening.

"Merely a dream," I said to myself, and so perhaps it was, for my dog, a few minutes later, thrusting his cold nose into my hand seemed to rouse me from a deep sleep. Yet no waking hought was ever clearer, and, in spite

and spoke of her as much as ever.

Like most people of quiet and gentle disposition he was very obstinate when roused to anger, and from the first he refused to call my second wife mother. After our marriage Kate told him that she was his mama, but with a child's idea of truth and falsehood he only perceived that she was not the mother that he remembered, and refused to be deceived into calling her so. Before our marriage he was quietly indifferent to all her efforts to win him, so they indifferent to all her efforts to win him, so they started out on a worse footing than if they had been entire strangers. Perhaps if I had been at home all the time they might finally have be-

come friends, but after each trip I could see that matters grew worse.

Once I came home unexpectedly and found little Oscar sitting in his little chair on the gallery; the sun was hot and he was bareheaded, and instead of running joyfully to meet me as he usually did, he hung his head and sat perféctly still; his cheeks were flushed from the heat, but a deeper red covered his whole face when he saw me. I spoke to him but he did not look up, and on reaching his side I found that he was tied in the chair with his arms fastened behind him. When I asked him what he was doing there he looked ashamed and sullen, but when I set to work to untie him and cut the strings that bound him, he grew frightened and said tremulously: "Don't, papa, don't." But when he felt himself free he threw himself into my arms and burst into tears. I quieted him as best I could and finally won him to tell me the cause of his punishment, for such it was.

That night I had a glorious row with, my wife, I forbade her punishing my child in any such inhuman manner, and she said that unless I would allow her to punish him that she would not be responsible for his conduct. She said that he was stubborn, wilful, deeciful and disobedient, and told me that only severify could correct such faults. We argued the point warmly and none too kindly until she said that if Alice had not been a namby-pamby baby herself, without brains or character, that she would not have spoiled her child as she had done; I felt that I had heard too much and left the room.

After half an hour's walk out of doors, the night air cooled my temper a little and I went in again and found my wire sobbing as if her heart would break, so at last I gave in, for peace sake, and agreed that Oscar should be punished, but only when absolutely necessary.

On another occasion we had an argument on the same subject, when r neighbor reported to me that my wife was accustomed to holding the child on the or every slight offense; he intimated a great deal more pretty plainly and said that the n

Oscar and for a long time no menerous thad been made between us; so I hesitated before answering:

"No, my son, your mama is living."

"My mama, papa?" he asked again looking steadily into my face, but still I replied:

"Your mother is at home."

There was a strange mingling of scorn and sorrow on his gentle face as he turned it slowly and quietly away, a look too sad for one so young, and my heart throbbed with pity for him and shame for myself, so laying my hand softly on his I said in a low tone:

"Of course your real mother is in Heaven, my son, but you have another here."

Oh, the sudden joy that flooded his face at my words, as with all the trust and-confidence of childhood again written in it he turned to me. It was worth a row to bring that look there, but it died out as suddenly and he muttered sullenly:

"I knew she was lying when she said my mother was not in Heaven."

"Whe lind Oscar?" I asked, not understand-

"I knew she was lying when she said my mother was not in Heaven."
"Who lied, Oscar?" I asked, not understand-ing the change in him.
"She did," and he nodded his head toward

"She did," and he house.
home.
"Did this mother ever tell you that?" I asked.
"Yes, often and often, and wasn't she lying?"
"Who taught you to say that people lie, my son?" I asked, looking so sternly at him that he hung his head and blushed as he replied:
"She did; she tells me I am lying everything I say."

"She did; she tells me I am I Jone
I say."

I made no answer to this but sat quietly
thinking how much easier children learn than
we think they do, and how many things are
taught them by our every act and word. Suddenly Oscar exclaimed:

"I know my mama is beautiful for I've seen
her."

I looked at him and found his face happy and

I looked at him and found his face happy and bright again, and asked:
"Where have you seen her picture, son?"
"I never saw any picture, I see her." He answered confidently, nodding his head until his long curls fell over his face. I put them back into their place and said:
"You saw her when you were a baby, but you cannot remember that."
"No, I don't remember that," he answered thoughtfully, "but I see her often now, she has pretty curls like mine, and always smiles at me."

"No, I don't remember that," he answered thoughtfully, "but I see her often now, she has pretty curls like mine, and always smiles at me."

There was an expression about his face as if he might now be looking into the spirit world, but I only told him:

"Look into your glass at home any day, my boy, and you will see your mother's face." And when he looked at me not understanding, I went on to tell him that he had all her features and looked so much like her that I thought I saw her every day, and how I hoped he would grow like her in disposition.

Another time when I had been reading to him he listened attentively, and when I finished that beautiful poem, "The little boy that died." I looked up to find my boy's eyes filled with tears and his iip quivering. I had read the piece more for my own pleasure than because I believed he could appreciate it, but when I saw him so much affected by it I was glad to see that he had such good taste, and was about to commend him for it when he said:

"Papa, I wish I was dead."

Much shocked at this I began to think that the poem had made too deep an impression and scarcely knew how to answer him, to gain time I asked: "Why, my boy?"

"Aunt Mary says I would be better off dead, and 'she' is always wishing I was," he answered

"Aunt Mary says I would be better off dead, and 'she' is always wishing I was," he answered seriously, and a long lecture from me did not, I believe, convince him that it was wrong to speak in that way.

speak in that way.

More and more it grew upon me that things were not as they should be with my child, and when I was away I was never at rest thinking what might happen in my absence, and when I was at home it was not much that I could do.

come friends, but after each trip I could see that matters grew worse.

Once I came however, expectedly and found little Oscar sitting in his little chair on the gallery; the sun was hot and he was barn-headed, and instead of running joyfully to meet me as he usually did, he hung his head and sat perfectly still; his cheeks were flushed from the heat, but a deeper red covered his whole face when he saw me. I spoke to him side I found that he was tied and sail the was doing there he looked ashamed and sullen, but when I set to work to untie him and cut the strings that bound him, he grew frightened and said tremulously: "Don't, papa, don't." But when he felt himself free he threw frightened and said tremulously: "Don't, papa, don't." But when he felt himself free he threw frightened and said tremulously: "Don't, papa, don't." But when he felt himself free he threw frightened and said tremulously: "Don't, papa, don't." But when he felt himself free he threw frightened and said tremulously: "Don't, papa, don't." But when he felt himself free he threw frightened and said tremulously: "Don't, papa, don't." But when he felt himself free he threw frightened and said tremulously: "Don't, papa, don't." But when he felt himself free he threw frightened and said tremulously: "Don't, papa, don't." But when he felt himself in him hat she would not be responsible for his conduct. She would not be responsible for his conduct. She would allow her to punish him that she would not be responsible for his conduct. She would not have spoiled her child as deeper dead to be feet alo

face was still there, but the features were now perfectly clear, and I pledge you my word that I saw my dead wife as plainly as I ever saw her living.

I was not intoxicated, indeed I am not a drinking man, I was wide awake, for I remember distinctly the conversation of a couple in the seat ahead of me, and I was not under the influence of any opiate. If you think this is a joke I would like some other man, the bravest among you, to have the same experience.

For half an hour, I suppose, I continued to watch the face and it without changing seemed to follow me.

At last by the mightiest effort of will power that I ever made in my life I turned my head away from the window, then I got up slowly by another mighty effort and almost staggered from the coach to the smoker. I lit a cigar and tried to appear natural, for already I heard the strangers about me commenting on my singular look.

I had no sooner seated myself when I felt as if something was turning my head in spite of myself, and as I slowly faced the window I saw the shadow on the pane.

I turned my back and tried to smoke quietly but the strain was too great, I felt every instant as if I must either look or leave, so I returned to the coach. My first move there was to draw up the blind, but before I could reach it I saw that the face was already there.

Pale, beautiful, surrounded by dark curls, the cyes closed, the lips set as if ready to smile, there was nothing in It to frighten any one yet as I saw it again I felt my flesh creep, the cold perspiration broke out on my face and my hands grew clammy. From that time until a few moments before ten I was conscious of nothing else. The noise of the train, the voices of the other passengers, the flight of time were all lost to me. Some may have noticed my strange appearance as I sat motionless staring through, or rather, at my window, as if my eyes were chained there: some may even have spoken to me. I don't know, I don't remember. At last it faded away as gradually as it came, and I could see the distant li

At last it faded away as gradually as it came,
At last it faded away as gradually as it came,

At last it faded away as gradually as it came, and I could see the distant lights of the city faintly shining in its place.

My home was in the suburbs and the road curved around my grounds only a few hundred yards from the house. As the train slowed up on the curve and before entering the city I usually got off there and walked home.

After the shadow left my window I soon regained my customary self-possession and begun gathering my traps together to get off, butbefore the train slacked up it gave a little rush forward and then stopped so suddenly as to throw every one in the coach from his seat. I had been in several wrecks and smash-ups and soon perceived that there was something the matter here. There was a general upraising of windows, and as I turned to do likewise I saw a group with lanterns outside, and before I could reach the window I saw a man stoop and lift something in his arms, as he did so the head fell back and I saw once more the face that had been following me.

Stunned and scarcely knowing what I did I rushed from the car, and as I neared the crowd now gathered I heard someone say: "Here comes his father," and they laid the body down. I knelt beside it and when I saw the white face surrounded by the dark curls, the closed eyes, and pale sweet lips, I knew without asking that my child was dead.

I heard without heeding the questions, comments and suggestions made, by those around

I heard without heeding the questions, comments and suggestions made by those around me, but I did not understand anything until the conductor, an old friend, drew me away and

told me to go home to prepare his mother. I wanted to tell him that his mother was dead, but I believe I said nothing, merely walked away with almost an unconscious air.

I know not what guided my steps, but I finally staggered into the house, as I did so my wife sprang from her chair with a scream, and before I could say a word she exclaimed:

"You have seen it too."

"Seen what?" I asked mechanically, scarcely wondering at her strange words but at her answer I felt once more a strong shudder seize my frame, for she said:

"The face on the pane."

I made no reply, but fell into a chair and gazed at her till the sound of many people entering my yard roused me, and I said without any preparation whatever:

"Oscar is dead."

She had been standing ever since I came in, but at these words she fell back into her chair and I saw her stiffened lips trying to form the word "How," but she made no sound. I answered her almost calmly:

"The train ran over him."

She shuddered and her head fell on her breast but still she said nothing. Almost as the first man reached the porch I asked:

"What was he doing there?"

She shook her head as if to say she did not know, but I continued:

"Where was he when you saw him last?"

I had rizen to meet the coming men and at my last question she sprang from her chair and rushed over to my side, she flung herself on my breast and cried:

"Don't blame me, don't blame me, I had him tied in his bed upstairs because he would go to the grave-yard and pray for his mother to come after him, and she has been coming for a long time; I have seen her over and over again until I was nearly mad. He wanted to go to meet you this afternoon but I tied in his bed upstairs because he would go to the grave-yard and pray for his mother to come after him, and she has been coming for a long time; I have seen her over and over again until I was nearly mad. He wanted to go to meet I could catch her she fell heavily to the floor.

There is nothing more to tell. I remember I could catch her she fell heavily to the

That Little Boy of Mine and Locomotor Ataxy.

m: South Lima, N. Y., Aug. 17, '93. why I am in my present occupation. I Dear Madam

Dear Madam: South Lima, N. Y., Aug. 17, '93. You ask why I am in my present occupation. I will tell you:

"About one year ago, that little boy of mine, then two years old, received an injury from a fall which caused a long fit of sickness and terminated in what the doctors call 'Locomotor Ataxy.' The very best physicians to be secured in this section, were employed; much medicine used, and we tried electricity in its various forms, but without the least benefit, as he became worse instead of better and our Family Doctor finally pronounced him incurable, saying he would certainly never regain the use of his legs if he did recover. About this time I read about a man who was 'unable to stand on his legs,' until he had used that Wonderful Food for the Nerves, 'Oxien.' manufactured by The Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine. I thought best to try it as a last resort to sare my boy, and thanks be to Heaven. After putting an Oxien Plaster on his back and giving him some of the tablets he commenced to gain at once, and now after taking only one Giant box, costing but one dollar, our dear boy is running around as smart as can be. What better could I do than to enter into the sale of this wonderful food, with both heart and hand, hoping that all who are afflicted with no matter what complaint, will give Oxien a trial. Mrs. B. Gordon to whom I have sold some, said that Oxien has already done her Asthma more good than hundreds of doilars worth of medicines which she has bought and used during the past 25 years."

Yours with respect, C. H. ELD.

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ILL you please tell me wher

ILL you please tell me where I can get a musical ear for my little Johnnie who is eight years fold, and who was so carried away by the music of the German band that played Wagner's music near the exit of the World's Fair last month, that he would not rest until I bought him a volin?

He is just dying to become the leader of a band, and build up a reputation for himself in some center of culture instead of wasting away his fair young life thrashing grasshoppers in summer, and aursing chilblains in winter, in this howling wilderness.

He dearly loves music, and would rather whistle a tune than do anything else. His father before him, who is now dead, used to sing in church before we were married.

The man who sold me the fiddle guaranteed that anyone could master it with a musical ear, and told us these ears came from a place which I have forgotten, but which Johnnie thinks is in Rhode Island. As I have lost the address, and as just now Chicago people are earrying their heads too high anyway to suit sensible folks, I am almost on the brink of despair, and shall be on the brink unless you will help me.

I hope you will reply at once, and then, some day, Johnule will compose a medley of opera for you.

ne.

I hope you will reply at once, and then, some day,
Johanie will compose a medley or opera for you. Yours truly, LUCRETIA DRINKWATER, Paradise Park, North Dakota.

ANSWER .- You have good reasons for believing that Chicago people are carrying their heads pretty high at the present writing. Up to the time of our going to press, the only genuine musical ear comes from Providence, but not the one in Rhode Island. From what you tell us, the chances are that your boy already has sufficient ear to lead a Wagner band, and we advise you to have his ears tested by an expert. In the meantime, do not let him lose his grip on the grasshoppers and chilblains of Paradise Park. It is always well to have more than one string to the bow of a fair young life, however much sadness it may bring to a fond mother's heart.

We deeply sympathize, not only with a boy who dearly loves music, but also with a mother who stands on the brink of despair; for, ever since the spring of '61 we have known what it is to yearn for the unyearnable. In that year, a little boy aged seven was apprenticed by his mother to the leader of an Ohio brass band, in order that he might master the weird mystery of the violin, and, incidentally, to milk seven cows, chop wood, help the hired girl, and ride a horse hitched to a cultivator between the rows of 719 acres of corn and potatoes, and the hours of sunrise and sunset. And the reason why, to-day, he cannot tell the difference between "Katherine Manœuvering" and "Sister's Teeth will be ready Thursday," is not because he was sent home at the and of the season with a diploma, stating he lacked a



musical ear; but because the party of the second part tailed to develop the genius necessary to run a farm, weed a band, court a girl, and give violin lessons all at one and the same time. We know this is true for we were the little boy.

According to the latest advices from the man in the moon, the first day of the present month was like the transgression of Adam-the beginning of the fall.

"Won't you tell us why you don't get married?" asked a New York dude of a lady at a whist party on Whippoorwill Hill the other night. "Well, if you must know," said she, "there's at my home a parrot that swears, a mule that kicks, and a monkey that shews; so I have no use for a husband."

An Augusta cigarette fiend, whose present address is withheld because it is unknown, suddenly gave up the had habit last week. He was visiting a marble quarry in Vermont and carelessly dropped hot ashes into an open keg of blasting powder. According to an eye witness, the thing all ended in smoke. It is supposed that the young man took a straight cut.

Last Friday a Stumpy Grove lady received the photograph of her son who is at college, where he had his face scarred in a skirmish with one of his foot-ball teachers. When the mother wrote: "What a picture!" the young man assured her that it was "done by one of the Old Masters."

Every fall brings to the front the past, present, and future history of the good little boy, of which I am

I love to be good, and I always keep off the grass. I would rather attend school than go to a circus. While other little boys play shinny and yell like

Indians, I love to study addition, division and sil-

I am mamma's little boy; because, when there's lots of company and little pie I am never hungry, but

always pursue the path of righteousness. I am papa's boy, too; for when he gets mad at the kicking cow, and calls her Helen Blazes, I never hear him.

It is nice to be good. I would rather attend Sabbath-school than to go swimming; and I believe that little boys who borrow water-melons, and laugh and shout and play hookey, are wicked, and will some day be treated just like the water on the upper end of a sawmill.



I am also teacher's little boy; because I am polite; and when he asks, "Tommy, how is your grandma?" I say, "Dead, thank you."

It is so good to be good.

I think it is naughty to holler even at a crow, or throw a stone at a snake, because it hurts poor creatures to be frightened or hit.

I am auntie's boy,too; because, when she's got com-pany, I always go out in the yard and count the chickens, or gaze at the stars.

I never say naughty words, or think naughty thoughts, or drink, or smoke, chew or dance. But I am going to be so good that some day I may become bank president; and then, by-and-by. I'll go to Canada and live.

WISE WORDS OF A DEPARTED PHILOS-OPHER.

It is safe to bet that the man who can wear a shirt a week and keep it clean, can't do anything else.

If you itch for fame, go into a grave-yard and scratch yourself against a tombstone.

Two lovers, like two armies, generally get along quietly until they are engaged.

There are lots of people who spend so much time watching their wealth that they haven't any time left to enjoy it.

The great fight is first for bread, next for butter on the bread, and then for sugar on the butter.

ODDITIES.

The last will and testament of William Penn is still in existence, and belongs to Mr. Frank T. Sabin of Philadelphia. It is two hundred and nine years old, and well-preserved.

esteam warping-tug is a Canadian invention of propels itself on land as easily as on water, s first used in lumber districts, and is built like w with steel runners.

A young woman in Orange, N. J., fell from a horse-car last April and was taken to a hospital in a comatose state. She remained so eighteen days, which is almost unprecedented.

The city of London presented the Princess of Teck rith 2,500 pounds sterling on her marriage to the buke of York recently. \$12,500 ought to put an enaged couple in the best of humor.

Two Maryland negroes came across an old cannon ball completely embedded in the trunk of a tree, recently. There was artillery firing in that region during the Revolution, but none since.

It is reported that the original text of the Gospels has been found in a convent on Mount Sinai. It is in Syrian language, from which the Greek version (which is our authority) was translated.

The late Senator Leland Stanford's agents have in the Horticultural Building, Chicago, an ornamental fountain which throws jets and sprays of wine. It is protected by a crystal case. The working of a Cali-tornia vineyard is shown near by.

An escaped lunatic recently boarded an elevated train in Chicago, and after the train started, seized a workingman and attempted to throw him overboard. A frantic struggle ensued. At the next station, it took four officers and several train-hands to get the fellow to a police station.

One of the biggest dams in the world is the new one at Austin, Texas, over the Colorado River. It is 1,200 feet long, of solid limestone overlaid with red granite from Texas quarries. It is 60 feet high, and has created a lake 25 miles long. It supplies the city with water and light, besides turnishing about 14,000 horse power in maning manif. ctories

WORLD'S FAIR NOTES.

Spain has 350 exhibits.

A Swiss exhibit of watches is valued at 5250,0%. One piece of Missouri lead on exhibition weighs 6,500 pounds.

A section of a tree 401 years old is in the forestry building.

The pictures in the Art Building if hung in line would reach a mile.

They hatch chickens at the World's Fair by electricity in nineteen days.

A statuette of Emperor William in the German section, contains 1,500 silver dollars.

A single pair of lace curtains, worth \$6,000, and which took six months to make, is shown in the Manufacturers' Building.

The largest search-light in the world is located on the roof of the Manufacturer's Building. It has 194,000,000 candle power.

Some of the novetties to be seen are a glass dress, a log valued at \$30,000, a plank 16 feet wide, and a cheese weighing 22,000 pounds.

FACTS FOR FARMERS.

Cows should be milked in the stable. Medium-sized hogs are most profitable. Wire fencing is the best for poultry-yards.

Milk your cows as late as possible each year. Daily exercise is necessary to keep horses in health. Currants and goose-berries are easily propagated from cuttings.

Dust your turnips with wood ashes as a protection against flies,

Farms of a few acres can be irrigated by means of a wind mill. Overloaded trees should have the fruit thinned out while green.

To break up a setting hen, shut her up in a strange place a few days. Our total export of wheat and flour for this year will be about 185,000,000 bushels.

An old fruit tree can be made to produce several years longer by cutting back and applying fertilizers.

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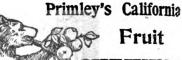
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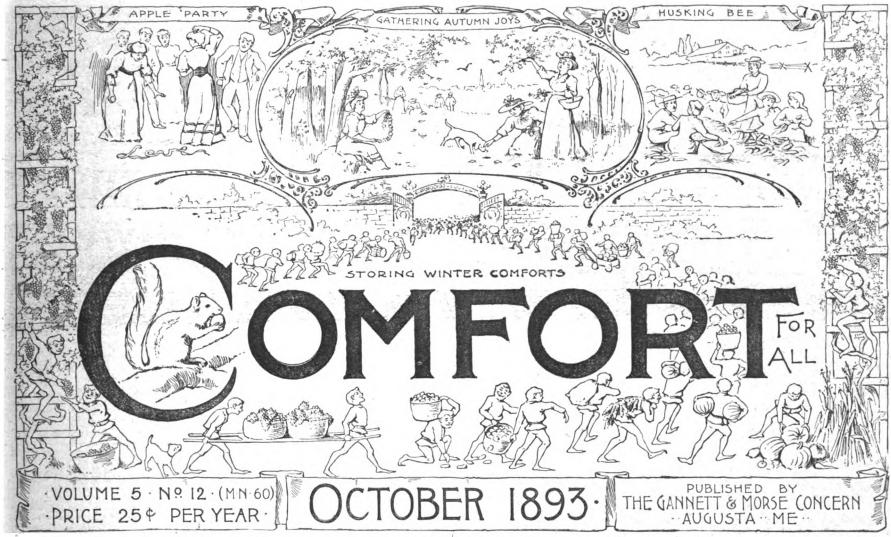
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\$100.00 PRIZE STORIES \$100.00

The following conditions will hereafter govern the awarding of cash prizes for Nutshell Stories, and the awarding of cash prizes for Nutshell Stories, and the awarding of cash prizes for Nutshell Stories, and the awarding of cash prizes for long as have compiled with all these requirements will receive consideration.

All the necessary particulars being here clearly set forth, it will be useiess for any one to seek turther information or personal favors by addressing the editor, as such letters cannot be answered.

1. Only persons who are regular yearly subscribers to "Comfort" and who send with every manuscript at least two new yearly subscribers (together with 25 cents for each subscriber so sent) may compete for the prizes.

All contributions must have the number of words they contain plainly noted thereon in addition to the griver's full name and address with nom de plume if desired; must be written on one side of the paper only, addressed to Editor Nutshell Story Club care of Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

3. All stories must be strictly original with the contributors who may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace; or city or country life, or of experiences on land or sea—but no story must contain more than 2,000 or less than 1,000 words.

4. NO MANUSCRIPT WILL BE RETURNED UNDER ANY

no story must contain more than 2,000 or less inun a, now words.

4. NO MANUSCRIPT WILL BE RETURNED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES AND COMPETITORS SHOULD THEREFORE RETAIN A COPY OF WHAT THEY SEND.

5. The write of the best original story will receive \$30 cash; of the second best, \$25 cash; of the third best, \$20 cash; of the fourth best, \$15 cash; and of the fifth best, \$10 cash. Remittence will be sent by check as soon as avards have been made.

No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in under this Short Story Prize Offer.

The Publishers of "Comfort" reserve the right to purchase at their established rates any stories submitted under the foregoing offer, which failed to secure a prize.

PRIZE WINNERS FOR OCTOBER. Kenyon West, First Prize,

Addie Goodwyn, Second Prize,

Mrs. S. M. Maverick, Third Prize, A. Stuart, Fourth Prize,

Mrs. Addie Topham, Fifth Prize.

THE WATCH I LEFT AT THE FAIR.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY KENYON WEST.

Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.



T was my good fortune to have the glories of unfold themselves before me on a fresh and bright day in May.

So many beautiful things have been said in description of the great Exposition that I am not going to attempt any analysis of my impressions. Every reader of COMFORT expects to go

and see, or has already seen the dreamlike charm, the enchantment of it all-and hence anything that I might write would be tame indeed, compared with the reader's own experi-

One thing happened to me, however, which will not be repeated in the experience of any other reader of COMFORT, and therefore I shall attempt to describe it just as it occurred.

I stayed at the Vendome, on Oglesby Ave. and walked every morning to and from the 62nd and walked every morning to and from the 62nd seemed to haunt me. "Is he a detective, do you St. entrance. This walk led me across a vacant think?" she asked. "Does he imagine you are

have to pass along the street which was half he thinks you carry money about with you?" blocked up with building materials, and finally reach the entrance to the grounds.

It is well to remember that this part of Chicago is the outgrowth of the Exposition. The streets, consequently, are ill lighted and ill paved, and everything is, more or less, in an unfinished state.

To this tunnel, dark and damp even on the brightest days, I paid little heed until the event occurred on Saturday night, the memory of which even now is grewsome and thrilling.

My wife and others of our party usually left the grounds early, but I soon wished to remain longer as the wonders of the "Fair" increased; though, owing to the cold weather, I always returned to the hotel soon after seven.

The first time that I was thus late I noticed a policeman stationed at the entrance to the tunnel. The street in the fading light was silent and deserted. "It feels chilly here, don't you think so?" I said as I passed him, for no more desolate place for his beat could well be imagined. He smiled a reply and I was struck the pathetic sadness of his face. Every night the same man was there, solitary and silent at his cheerless post.

In May the Fair grounds were at no time crowded. In this quiet street there were few pedestrians-indeed I was often the only one in the tunnel. I did not think of there being any necessity for more than one policeman there until Saturday night had passed; and then I called the attention of the authorities to the dangerous character of the place, and how much it needed electric lights.

On Wednesday morning I went down to the city to escort my wife to the Woman's Congress, then took the Illinois Central, hoping to get to the Fair in time for the Thomas' Concert.

Always interested in my fellow travellers I noticed those who got on and off the cars. At Hyde Park a man entered hurriedly and took the only vacant seat opposite me. He seemed hot and flustered and had an odd, furtive way of looking about him. Then I began listening to the talk of two Algerians who had strayed away from the Midway Plaisance for a trip down town. Their modes of expression were interesting.

I got off at 57th St., as I found I could not get to the concert. A crowd left the cars with me and I was rudely jostled by the man from Hyde Park. Instinctively I placed my hand upon have ever seen or felt. It could almost be cut my watch. When paying my fare at the gate with a knife, it was so thick! We heard footthis man was close beside me, and he inspired steps entering the tunnel behind us, we could the "White City" first in me both distrust and aversion. I lost sight hear exclamations of surprise and uncertainty, of him till I emerged from the art gallery. Going into the Aquarium, I ran into the first real crowd I had yet seen. Pushing through it, almost at my elbow, was this man. Again I felt inclined to give more attention to my own personal property than to the interesting objects around me. I caught his eyes upon me several times and they made me feel uncomfortable. As I stopped to look at the sea anemones, hoping he would pass on, he paused just behind me. Then I heard a voice in the crowd say, 'Come on; there ain't any fish in that tank.' and with a smile at the ignorance of the speaker, I turned and went out into the sunshine.

During the next three days I came across that man at all times and in all places. He grew to me as familiar as the Statue of the Republic or the Peristyle; indeed, I looked at him oftener than I did the glories of the Court of

At last my wife noticed how persistently he

under the railway. Emerging from this, I would | does he know that you are a wealthy man and

This had not occurred to me before, and I confess her words gave me a strange feeling.

The next morning, on entering the tunnel, we found our "shadow" a few feet ahead of us walking slowly. We hurried past him but I could not detect that his footsteps quickened after us in the quiet street.

At last Saturday night came, the second that the great Exposition had been illuminated by electricity. We remained late in the Court of Honor; it was a dream of enchantment, a beautiful vision to be held ever in memory. The darkness on our way homeward was all the more intense in contrast with the former brilliancy; 62nd Street was scarcely lit at all; and we found it hard to make our way over the piles of brick and sand. Arrived at the tunnel the darkness before was light in comparison with what we experienced here. Had we not known who it was, the solitary shadow looming up before us at the mouth of the tunnel would have been a mystery indeed.

My wife grasped my arm convulsively; others



of our party laughed nervously as we began to

"By Jove this is a ticklish place!" I heard brother Tom say behind me. The next instant we were in the midst of the darkest darkness I but our ignorance of the speakers added to our excitement. Had we not known the floor to be level we would not have ventured to take another step. As it was we all intuitively felt the ground before we put our feet down firmly.

In the grounds I had noticed my "shadow"; and now, in the middle of this grewsome place I involuntarily glanced around, but of course I could see nothing, not even forms. A confused murmur of voices was then heard, a woman's faint scream in the distance and a man's quick oath, and the policeman must have lit some matches; for a few fitful gleams of light were visible for a second, then went out. Even my nerves were not proof against fears, but my wife's sensitiveness made me, for once, forget to button up my coat.

We had nearly got through. We could see the faint gleams of the Vendome lights in the distance, when I suddenly felt my arms seized from behind and held firmly for an instant; but before I could understand the meaning of it all, I heard a step hurrying away back into the

"Here, you rascal!" came in smothered tones from Tom, behind me.

It all happened so quickly, and we hurried on where a little light came from a distant gas jet. I was not surprised to see, quite near me, the man of whom I had just been thinking. Taking from my arm my wife's trembling hand, I turned and grasped him by the throat.

"You robber, you thief! Give me back my watch."

The man seemed utterly taken by surprise, but he managed to gasp out: "Your watch? I don't know anything about it, but I would be thankful to get my own back. Perhaps you have it," he added with a sneer. My eyes glanced at his vest-his watch chain had been cut in two, and a portion was hanging straight down from the buttonhole.

"Then you have been robbed too; I beg your pardon, but you have dogged my steps so

"Precisely the case with me. I have been much annoyed by your constant forcing yourself upon me. It's a mere coincidence, I suppose.'

The man's voice made me feel that his words ere false, but what could I do?

The policeman who came hurrying up at our excited words had no lantern; he didn't seem to know whether a man had passed him going the other direction; his faculties seemed to be chilled by the dark, uncanny place. I knew it was useless to accept my shadow's proposals to was useless to accept my shadow's proposals to search the tunnel—I had to agree to the loss of my watch and about two hundred dollars with as good a grace as I could assume. I felt sure my property was in this man's pockets, but I really felt reluctant to act further upon my suspicions. He accompanied us to the very door of our hotel, an act well calculated to disarm suspicion.

All night long, however, I reproached myself for letting him slip away so easily, and in the morning my wife added to my remorse by saying: "You should have had that man arrested. I feel sure he has your watch and money."

"Perhaps it is not too late now." I replied, "I can, at least, report my loss at police headquarters."

Two hours later I went there.

Two hours later I went there.

My mysterious follower was there before me, this time shadowed by two policemen. He had just been captured at his boarding house somewhere off 63rd Street, and was even now being divested of the contents of his inside pocket. On the table lay a diamond scarf pin, a small gold locket, two beautiful rings—and close beside them lay my watch.

Augustus 18 Nore—Since the facts above re-

AUTHOR'S NOTE.—Since the facts above related took place, the tunnel has been well lighted; so that such an occurrence cannot be repeated.

SOLD FOR A SILK RAG.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY ADDIE GOODWYN

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T was New Year's eve at one of the mil-

itary stations in India. The ball given by one of the officers was in full swing. The dancing was in the dining-room, and the supper was laid in a tent near by. At 11:45 the guests were assembled around the well-filled tables.

The general was present. He was out on a tour of inspecion, and the ball was in his honor so every one was happy and delighted.

"Isn't it rather rash of us to choose this night for keeping partner, as she drew off her long white gloves preparatory to tasting the savory mock turtle. "It won't matter for once anyway," he replied. "You need not rise until you please."

"Indeed! And do you suppose for a moment that I will let our regiment parade, and not be present? Of course I will get up. Six o'clock

"A quarter past."

The young man by her side looked down into her eyes and whispered something that brought the color to her cheeks. His manner suggested the existence of a bond stronger than friend-

They were not engaged, though each was desperately in love with the other. Their course of true love did not run smooth. A stern father barred the road to bliss, a barrier that

had already caused Vivian many tears.

But Captain Rudolph Wyllys was an audacious lover. He rather liked the oppression, as it gave zest to his courtship.

During the noise around the table Vivian said:

During the noise around the table Vivian said:

"I wish you would not talk like that! You know it's of no use."

"I know nothing of the kind" he quickly replied. "Did you'ever meet a soldier who was frightened off the field of love or war? Your father can't subdue me with a stare."

"He is looking so annoyed."

"My little darling, you need not look so frightened. Eat your supper and you will be better prepared to listen to what I have to say to-night."

She gave him a quick glance.

"You heard the good news this morning—that I have received my promotion? Have some of this punch? It looks good."

He helped her as he spoke. He was fully able to eat a good supper and make love at the same time.

"Yes, I was told and I am very glad. I congratulate you."

"I have been longing for this promotion," he said, "for Vivian, I can afford to keep a wife now."

But these words only made her sad, and she

now."
But these words only made her sad, and she

But these words only made her sad, and she said:

"Rudolph! Father will never give his consent. You know he never will."

"But he shall give his consent. Do you think stern fathers are never conquered? You shall see, darling."

"Silence! for the toasts begin."

Glasses were filled; short speeches were made; and as the New Year came in, each one turned to his neighbor, and good wishes were exchanged.

In a few minutes Captain Wyllys and Vivian were seated in a dimly lighted alcove, where he had his say.

His love-making, like his soldiering, was without fear. Vivian caught some of his hope, and she gave herself up to the enjoyment of the hour.

"A last kiss and then one turn around the room before that waltz is finished," said Rudelph, when his "say" was over and her protests had been met and overthrown. But it was not to be, for gentle Mrs. Ballinger came for her daughter. There was a troubled look on her face.

"Bear Vivian, I have been seeking for you."

her daughter. There was a troubled look on her face.

"Bear Vivian, I have been seeking for you everywhere. Your father has taken cold and we must go home at once on account of the parade in the morning."

When Col. Ballinger got home the servants were aroused and sent for hot water, mustard, and sweet spirits, of niter.

Mrs. Ballinger and Vivian doctored the Colonel patiently and he soon fell asleep, and was apparently comfortable save for the portentous snore that shook his frame occasionally.

tentous snore that shook his frame occasionally.

In the morning he was but very little better, and woke sneezing and coughing and weeping. But he was compelled to be on duty, so his uniform was laid out all ready, and his servant had his horse saddled and in readiness for him. "Oh, confound this cold! Get me out some old silk handkerchief. I feel as if my head would burst," he managed to growl out.

He finally dressed with many difficulties, for a man afnicted with a troublesome head cold is a deplorable object.

e man afnicted with a troublesome head cold is a deplorable object.

He drank his coffee, then buckled on his sword, and mounting his charger, he galloped to the parade ground.

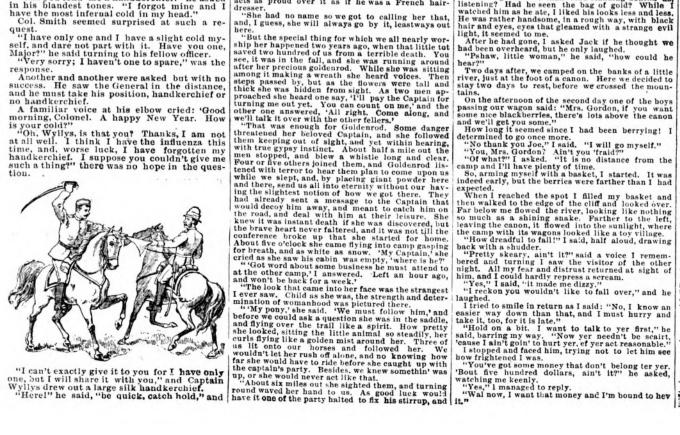
He found the morning air sharp, for the sun was just rising and—confound it all! here was another fit of sneezing coming on! Now where was his handkerchief? He felt in his cuffs. But it was not there. He felt in the breast of his coat. No! Had he given it to his horse keeper to hold? No! Horrors of horrors! He had forgotten it, and just then his sneezing increased, and, dash it all, his nose began to run! What should he do? His eyes began to fill with tears, and no handkerchief. The least speck on his uniform would incense the General.

eral.

He rode slowly by his regiment and seeing Col. Smith, he rode up to him.

"Can you lend me a handkerchief?" he asked in his blandest tones. "I forgot mine and I have the most infernal cold in my head."

Col. Smith seemed surprised at such a request.



as the Colonel caught one end Captain Wyllys drew his sword and sliced the handkerchief, leaving the larger half in the Colonel's hand.
"My dear fellow, how shall I ever thank you?" he said.
"Ask me to be a colonel."

Ask me to breakfast," replied Rudolph

"Ask me to breakfast," replied Rudolph quickly.
The Colonel eyed him, then laughed.
"You cheeky young dog," he said, "I know what you mean, and what I am doing when I say 'yes.' You may come and you may think yourself lucky to have won her so easily."
They rode away, each to his station.
After the review, Capt. Wyllys rode up to Viviah, shook hands, and exchanged New Year creetings.

greetings.
"Oh, you need not look so uneasy, your father has given his consent, and I am invited to breakfast."

"Don't tease me, Rudolph."
"I am not teasing you, darling. It is really true, for your father sold you to me."
"Sold me!"
"Yes, sold you, for a silk rag—but if you let me have "n hour in your parlor this morning, I will tell you about it."
And now, when Rudolph wants to tease Vivian, he tells her she is not worth much, for she was "sold for a silk rag."

LITTLE GOLDENROD. WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY SARAH M. MAVERICK.

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AKE care, sir, how you flourish that cowhide ground. Better not be so lively with it. If you should happen to hit that little one coming past you'd have it back in five minutes. That's our little Goldenrod, and there isn'ta man in camp that wouldn't lay right down, and let her trot all over him if she wanted to. Odd name? Well, yes, rather. Maybe you'd like to know how she got it, and why she is here."

of us for several weeks. One morning we found they had left during the night, and when the captain came out of his cabin he almost stepped on a bundle that lay in front of it. Picking it up he saw that it was something alive, and supposed the boys had played a joke on him. What was his surprise to find neither puppy, nor kitten, but a sweet baby face looking up at him from the wrappings. Well sir, he dropped into a chair just as if you'd struck him.
"'My gracious,' he says, 'what on earth shall we do

with it? and he looked so helpless we had to laugh at him. She put up her mite of a hand, and giving his long beard a gentle pull, nestled down in his arms as much as to say, 'Take care of me, of course.' He found a paper pinned to the white dress where its mother had written: 'For the sake of the mother who loves you, take care of this little one. I can't keep 'though she has a perfect right in the world.'

her, though she has a perfect right in the world."

"Well, we were in a fix. At that time there wasn't a woman in camp, but you'll most always find where there's a lot of men together, that one of them is pretty sure to be about as handy as a woman, and, as good luck would have it, that was the case here. After we had all of us had our say, and some of the most ridiculous suggestions had been made in sober carnest. Dan Draper steps up, and says he, 'Look here, Cap'n, I reckon I can take about as good care of the little thing as any of us. I helped raises six kids of my own, and if you say so l'Il turn nurse.' Thanks, Draper, 'says he, handing her over with an air of relief. 'It's a big job off my hands. She's a nair of relief. 'It's a big job off my hands. She's a mair of relief. 'It's a hig job off my hands. She's a wast not let her suffer for want of care.'

"Well, the long, and short of it is, we all adopted her, and go shares in her expenses. She knows perfectly well how we idolize her, but she never takes advantage of it as most children would. The Captain is her favorite, and I believe she would lay down her life for him if she thought she was helping him by so doing.

"As she grew older she developed a perfect passion

life for him if she thought she was helping him by so doing.
"As she grew older she developed a perfect passion for flowers, especially the goldenrod. Many a time have we picked her up fast asleep in the field wifh a great bunch of it clasped in her arms. She wears it in her hair, and fastens it in her dress, and her pleasure in her curis lies in the fact that they are golden. You'd laugh to see Dan comb them out mornings. You'd think his life depended on getting every hair in line. There's plenty of women here now, but he declares he won't give up that job. After he has got them all in order he fastens a spray of goldenrod among them, if it is the season for it, and acts as proud over it as if he was a French hairdresser.
"She had no name so we got to calling her that."

dresser.
"She had no name so we got to calling her that, and, I guess, she will always go by it, leastways out

the Captain happened to see Goldenrod coming. He rode back to meet her, and as she came up to him she put out her hand with such a lock of love and thankfulness that he involuntarily stooped and kissed her. "What is it, mine girlie" he asked, and she told him how he had received a false call, and the danger that lay in waiting for him, and those left at the camp. As she finished speaking the poor child's strength gave way, and she would have fallen to the ground if he had not eaught her in his arms. You can just bet we were a scared lot, for we thought she was dying, but she had only fainted, and opened her eyes again in a few moments. The Captain carried her back to camp in his arms, while I led her pony. "On the way we saw coming Jack Siddons and Nate Carpenter, both of whom, said Goldenrod, were in the plot. Before they reached us we raised our revolvers and ordered 'hands up.' They looked surprised and sullen, but had sense enough to see that we had the best of them, and obeyed. When we got to camp we put them in confinement separately, and it was not long before we had all the particulars of a most villainous plot. By the next night we had captured the whole gang.
"Poor little Goldenrod was completely prostrated. Delirium set in, and for two week: the whole camp was as gloomy as a funeral. We had a good doctor though, and he pulled her through, but it was a tough job. We were so thankful for her recovery we all clubbed together, and gave him a hundred dollars extra.

"Yes, sir, our little Goldenrod is the light of this came and when you can are severed the light of this

tough 160. We well as the light of this extra.

"Yes, sir, our little Goldenrod is the light of this camp, and when you come around this way if you want to get into anyone's good graces, all you've got to do is to be 'specially kind to her.

"Hero she comes again with her Captain. No, we have never found out who she is, but I'd stake my life it's all right, and all we fear is that some relative will happen along and recognize her. Don't care how many she has if they will settle among us, but it would break up the camp if she should leave.

"Quite interested in her? Well, every one is for that matter. See here, stranger, seems to me you and the little girl have a good deal the same look, about the eyes especially. Toticed it first time I glanced st you. What, going? Well, good luck to you. Better wait and speak to Goldenrod. No? A i right then, When you come around this way give it a call. Good morning."

SAVED BY A PANTHER.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY A. STUART.

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FTEN on winter nights have we gathered around the fire to listen to Uncle Jack's tales of his adve :tures "out west." They were wild and exciting enough, but the story I liked bet was one Aunt Ruth to'l. Perhaps I liked it, because, being a woman, I could sympathize more fully with one of my own sex.

I give the story in her own words.

You know that when Jack and I had been married about six months, the doctor said that if he did not leave the chill air of New England he would have consumption, and he advised California.

All our neighbors were horrified. California! The land of Indians and brigands, which was only reached by stage-coach or emigrant wagon?

I confess the prospect was hardly pleasant to me, but I urged my husband to sell his little farm and go. The journey was a dreadful one to undertake and my heart almost failed me when, all the preparations having been made, we started at last.

Your uncle has told you most of our adventures or the way, so I will skip part of the journey and tell you my adventure.

We had joined an emigrant train, and had reached the foot-hills of the Rockies, when we camped one night near another wagon-train. Word was brought us that a man in the other camp was very ill, and a

us that a man in the other camp was very ill, and a doctor was wanted. Jack knew a little of medicine and so went.

He was gone nearly all night and I sat up waiting for him. At last he returned and standing in the fire-light told me the man was dead. He was a man from our village, whom Jack had known some years before. "His wife and child are in B——, about twenty miles west of here, and he asked me to take them all the money he had," concluded Jack.

"How much is it?" I asked.

"About five hundred dollars. Here it is," showing a bag.

"How much is it?" I asked.

"About five hundred dollars. Here it is," showing a bag.
"Howdy, folks, howdy!" exclaimed a voice behind me, before I could speak.

We turned, startled, to face a man, dressed as a hunter who seemed to have started from the earth. He was tall and well bujit and the hand that grasped the rifle was sinewy and powerful.

"I see yer camp fire burnin', and come ter see ef I could git a bite ter eat," said the stranger, apologetically. "Haven't had nothin' sence yest'day mornin'." "Certainly I can give you something," I answered, and I turned to get some bacon and bread from the wagon, while Jack invited him to the fire.

How long had the man been standing behind us, listening? Had be seen the bag of gold? While I watched him as he ate, I liked his looks less and less. He was rather handsome, in a rough way, with black hair and eyes, eyes that gleamed with a strange evil light, it seemed to me.

After he had gone, I asked Jack if he thought we had been overheard, but he only laughed.
"Pshaw, little woman," he said, "how could he hear?"

Two days after, we camped on the banks of a little.

"But what have I to do with that?" I cried. "I haven't it with me."

haven't it with me."

"No, but yer, can get it fur me," he said. "Yon can bring it here to-night."

"I shan't do anything of the kind!" I cried.
"Of course you'll say that," he said with a scornful laugh; then his face grew dark. "But yer in my power yer know!" and he advanced toward me, scowling flercely. "Take care!" as I took a step backward, "I don't want yer ter go over too soon. Now listen," he went on, grasping me roughly by the arm, "you won't only hurt yourself by this foolishness, but you'll kill your husband, for I'll have to kill him if yer won't get the gold for me. Come here and look down," and he drew me to the edge of the (NUTSHELL STORIES CONTINUED ON PAGE 3) (NUTSHELL STORIES CONTINUED ON PAGE 3.)

"August Flower"

I have been troubled with dyspepsia, but after a fair trial of August Flower, am freed from the vexatious trouble—J. B. Young, Daughters College, Harrodsburg, Ky. I had headache one year steady. One bottle of August Flower cured me. It was positively worth one hundred dollars to me-J. W. Smith, P.M. and Gen. Merchant, Townsend, Ont. I have used it myself for constipation and dyspepsia and it cured me, It is the best seller I ever handled—C. Rugh, Druggist, Mechanicsburg, Pa.

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GENTS

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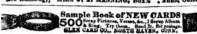




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WHAT THE CAMERA DID.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY ADDIE C. TOPHAM.

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ELL, it was nearly a month since Martin Bosworth had come to Benton, the little summer resort perched on the top of one of the Massachusetts hills, and hung up his sign as a photographer. It was dis-couraging work at first, but, little by little, it became quite the thing for the young people from the hotel and boarding houses to drop in and have their pic-

tures taken, and now he felt that he was slowly getting ahead.

If only he could save up enough, so that he and Molly could be married in the fall, it was all his wildest dreams could hope for. Poor, patient, loving Molly, it was three years since they became engaged, and for all he could see, until lately, she was liable to continue to preside over Dr. Collins' kitchen to

the end of time. Six months before, a travelling artist had stopped awhile in Brookdale, and taken a fancy to Martin, hiring him to help at odd times, and teaching him to take and finish up pictures. After he went away, Martin went to Worcester, and invested all his little savings in an old-fashioned, second-hand camera, and tried picture-taking on his own responsibility; but there was little call for a photographer in Brookdale, and so, taking Molly's advice, he had come to Benton to try and make their united fortunes.

Mrs. Miller is unjust, and that in her reply, from Molly it was three years since they became engaged, and for all he could see, until lately, she was liable to continue to preside over Dr. Collins' kitchen to the end of time.

Bix months before, a travelling artist had stopped while in Brookdale, and taken a fancy to Martin, the wind in the help at odd times, and teaching him to help at odd times, and teaching him to ake and finish up pictures. After he went away, martin went to Worcester, and invested all his little havings in an old-fashioned, second-hand camera, and tried picture-taking on his own responsibility; but there was little call for a photographer in Brookdale, and taken finish up necessary to be seen the savings in an old-fashioned, second-hand camera, and tried picture-taking on his own responsibility; but there was little call for a photographer in Brookdale, and as well it call for a photographer in Brookdale, and so, taking Molly's advice, he had come to Benton to try and make their united fortunes.

But there was little call for a photographer in Brookdale, and the said of the most remarkable instances be a supplementation of the most remarkable instances of the most remarkable inst Benton to try and make their united fortunes.

In the early mornings, before it was time to look for patrons, he would wander forth with his camera, and take shots at various picturesque spots, in the hope of finishing them up, and selling to the summer guests as souvenirs. He was standing, one forenoon, in front of a big white farm-house, almost at the end of the long street, and thinking what a pretty picture it would make, with the big St. Bernard dog asleep under one of the maples that shaded the wide veranda, when a lady came out, and sat down in one of the low chairs. Martin stood fascinated. She had the most beautiful face he had ever seen, and the saddest. If only he might take her picture, not to sell, not to show, just to keep for Molly and himself. But nothing would hire him to catch that sweet troubled face unawares, and he certainly hadn't the courage to go in and ask her permission. Suddenly she looked up, and saw him watching her, and gently inquired if he were looking for anyone. There was no help for it now, and slowly he limped up the path, feeling that all the blood in his body was showing in his

face.
"Please ma'am, might I take your picture?" he

stammered.

"Take my picture?" she repeated, wonderingly,
"what for? Not to sell?"

"Oh! no!" protested Martin, eagerly, "just for
Molly and me."

"And who is Molly?" a sad little smile fitting over
her force as she spoke.

Molly and me."

"And who is Molly?" a sad little smile flitting over her face, as she spoke.

And he told her, not only of Molly, but, encouraged now and then by a pleasant question, the humble little story of his life all came out, and the tears filled the listener's eyes, as the pathos of it all came home to her, and she realized there were other sorrows in the world beside her own. He told her of the pretty farm that had once been his father's, and how, step by step, that father went down, till at last he died a drunkard, and the farm was sold. How the mother struggled along for two years trying to support herself and her boy; then she, too, was taken, and Martin grew up working here and there for his board and cast-off clothes, and picking up what education he could. Then, when he was eighteen, and earning a comfortable living, a fall from a hay wagon had injured his thigh, and left him lame for life. And he told her of Molly, the only one in all the world who cared for him, and how hard he was trying to put away enough before the season was over, that they might feel safe to start out in life together, before another winter. It seemed to Martin, in thinking it over afterward, that he had told her all he ever hoped or dreamed. Even the impossible air castle of sometime buying back his father's farm, which even now was for sale, slipped out somehow.

He walked home on air, and, after that, there were very few days passed, but he managed to have a little

There was a choking cry, and Mr. Mason sprang to his wife's side.

"Look! Ned, look!" she gasped, pointing to the picture.

Wonderingly he obeyed, with a puzzled look which suddenly changed to one of wild excitement.

"Is this the child you were talking of, and did you say you saw him this morning?" he demanded of the bewildered Martin.

"Yes sir, about'n hour ago, down near the circus." There was a sob from the white-faced woman, and her husband clasped her closely in his arms.

"It is our boy, our little Teddy," he explained rapidly, "lost a year ago in New York. He was out with his nurse, who was knocked senseless by a runaway horse; when she recovered consciousness, the child was gone, and money and detectives, even the offer of a five thousand dollar reward, have all been powerless to find a trace of him. Now come, before we lose him again."

They had not far to search.

Just outsize the circus grounds, on the edge of a field, sat the foreigner, while, just beyond, stretched at full length on the ground, lay a sleeping child. The noonday sun beat down on the tired, flushed face, and, even in sleep, there was a pathetic curve to the little lip that told its own story of want and privation, and made the eager man who had drawn so near, catch his breath with a sob.

The Italian saw them coming, and, snatching up his violin, he roughly shoved the boy with his foot.

"Git up there, yer lazy loot, and dance one jeeg for the gentlemen."

But a savage hand seized his collar, and his feet flew out from under him, while, roused from his nap, the boy gazed in woncer as he saw his tyrant in the grasp of a stranger. But was it a stranger? A faraway look came into the big brown eyes, then suddenly a light spread all over the wan little face, and the childish voice rang out:

"Papa! Oh! papa!"

And in the next instant, in his rags and dirt, the worn little form was sobbing in the arms that had ached so long to hold him.

The next morning, Benton had lost its photographer, for Martin, with a check for five thousand dolars

The next morning, Benton had lost its photographer, for Martin, with a check for five thousand dollars in his pocket, was speeding home to Molly. There is no better paying farm in Brookdale than his, no happier couple than he and his Molly. Except for a few weeks in the summer, the camera is stored away in the barn, and then it is in constant use. Teddy "takes" everything, animate and inanimate on the place, while Martin and Molly, and the joyous, girlish-looking mother who cannot bear the sturdy youngster out of her sight, look ever admiringly on.

In answer to our challenge for proof that any of our prize stories were not original, although five million readers regularly see Comfort, less than half a dozen responses have been received, and three of these complaints concerned the same story, 'Miss Hetty,' by Rose Seelye-Miller, published in the June issue, and said to have been a plagiarism from a story published twenty years ago in Scribner's Magazine under the title of 'Miss Margodd's Thanksgiving.' The manuscript readers of Comfort have fully investigated the charge. The story has been carefully compared with the one in Scribner, and the author of 'Miss Hetty' has been communicated with. While the similarity in the story cannot be denied, the radical differences in the incidents, the style, and the manner of bringing about the denouement, are quite sufficient to convince us that the charge against Mrs. Miller is unjust, and that in her reply, from which we here quote, she is perfectly truthful, when she writes us, in regard to 'Miss Hetty':

"I composed and wrote the whole as fast as the

thought my work as good as some used in Scribner's."

While it is evident that we are not justified in awarding to anybody the \$10 offered, by which action we should be condemning Mrs. Miller, we are nevertheless gratified that the readers of COMPORT should have taken such a lively interest in the matter, and feel especially grateful to Miss Mabel C. Thompson, of Washington, D. C., who has written us so well and logically on this subject, from her point of view. We also congratulate ourselves on the result of our offer, which has proved to us conclusively that the readers of COMPORT have none of them taken an unfair advantage of the generous attempt that the management of the paper has made to aid them.

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prizes is necessarily a delicate matter, and one which requires much discrimination and strictly impartial judgment. In such a competition as ours, of course, there are a great many points to be considered, among the first and foremost and usefulness and originality; although if give the senders credit for thinking, when they were sent in, that they had never been suggested under this competition of the printed before. America is a great country; we evilized part of it. Consequently what may seem new in the West, is old to the East, and vice-versa. In fact I have had letters from Bees, sending me something which they claimed as new, and which doubtless was to them, but which I knew about when I was a little girl. And just here I want to thank you all for your interest in this corner and the practical way in which you have shown it. I hope you will not forget it. either; but will continue to send anything that may seem new or interesting, to the Bees. But now for the awards as they have seen decided upon after earl of though by our judges:

To Miss Mary A. Winslow, 117 School Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass., for letter in August Cossmangle and description of fish-scale work, to be published, \$15.

To Mrs. Alex. Conrad, Coolidge, New Mexico, for letter in August number, \$7.0.

To Mrs. Restelle Parker, Eldora, Hardin Co., lowa, for description of nursery, in this number, \$7.0.

To Mrs. Laura Belding Farwell, Ward Seminary, Nashville, Tenn., for letter on Chinapainting, in this number, \$6.

To Mrs. Isadora Clark, Boo 78, Elliott, Iowa for description of nursery, in this number, \$7.0.

To Mrs. Isadora Clark, Boo, 78, Elliott, Iowa for description of nursery, in this number, \$7.0.

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To Mrs. Isadora Clark, Boo, 78, Elliott, Iowa for description of nursery, in this number, \$7.0.

To Mrs. Isadora Clark, Boo, 78, Elliott, Iowa for des New York City, rope waste-basket; Genevieve Merritt, Jamestown, N. Y., ornamental screen; F. H. Fuller, Newburyport, Mass., a medicine chest; Mrs. Ollie Wood, Cinnaminson, N. J., practical directions to make a writing desk, a cosy corner in the family sitting-room, and several smaller articles; Mrs. A. L. C. Birckhead, Proffit, Albemarle Co., Va., suggestions for use in country homes; Mrs. Allie Brewster, Williston, Fla., "How I fixed up my sittingroom"; S. Jeannette Hubbard, 213 25th Ave., Duluth, Minn., a similar subject; Irvington Farrington, 307 G Spruce St., Manchester, N. H., home-made bath-tub; Eloise R. Leslie, 162 Blandina St., Utica, N. Y., "Fixing up a farmhouse": Mrs. Rhoda Wells, Box 234, Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas, home-made mattress, book-case, vases, etc.; E. H. Cooper, 260 E. Main St., Meriden, Conn., what to do with old kid gloves, crocheted edge for table, and various objects; Mrs. A.P. Bankhead, 111 Washington St., Memphis, Tenn., arrangement of shelves and rugs; Mary H. Hopkins, Barrington, Shelburne Co., N. S., several practical suggestions; Inez Redding, Chelsea, Mass., patterns for doll's clothes; Mrs. Henry Allquier, Mountain Grove, Mo., cabinet and other articles; Mrs. J. R. Willis, Golden Pond, Trigg Co., Ky., ironing table, dumb nurse and chicken-coop; Mrs. Lizzie G. Dellaughter, Warren, Bradley Co., Ark., furnishing a room; Mrs. Emma Lent, 1033 Howard St., Peekskill, N. Y., a domestic letter; Mrs. L. Halley, 200 E. 123 St., N. Y., book-shelf, fan-pocket, and catch-all; Mrs. S. J. Russell, Oldtown, Maine, picture-frames, screens, and scrap-basket; Miss C. M. Beeson, Brownsville, Wis., "What to do with old curtain-poles"; M. C. Lawrason, Wicker, N. C.,

cheap side-board and other articles; Mrs. Dona Smith, Kossuth, Miss., various ways of making pretity and useful things of old boxes; Mrs. M. F. S. WallaWalla, Wash., home-made rug and other things; Mrs. E. G. Morgan, 120 Clark St., Denver, Colorado, samples and description of worsted and ribbon work; Mrs. S. L. Pickett, 103 A North Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, Mo., home dispensary; Mrs. Wm. S. Royall, Appomatox Co., Nebraska P. O., Va., "Furnishing a home," and utilizing several homely articles in a practical way; Emma M. Cass, Hallowell, Me., ground glass transparency, newspaper rack, chest-settee, etc.; Miss Ida Donnelly, Union Depot, Richmond, Va., description of college girl's study; Mrs. E. L. Davis, Kalispell, Mont., "Making a home at minimum expense"; Miss Fanny LaRue, Summit Point, W. Va., pen and pencil holder; Bessie Parsons, N. Rankin St., Natchez, Miss., Christmas presents; Mrs. C. G. Huber, Butler, Pa., book-case, chair-seat, head-rest, etc.; Mrs. S. C. Moore, Slocum, Ga., items for mothers; Mrs. Isabella Redford, Sandy P. O., Texas, Mary E. Roberts, Montaloo, Cal., description of box-lounger; Mrs. Bernie Baboock, Little Rock, Ark., insertion; Mrs. A. D. Sowerby, Richmond, Kanasa, medicine chest; Miss Alice J. Wright, Fort Atkinson, Wis., straw-hat basket; Maggie E. Hudson, Lucknow P. O., Ontario, Canada, netted article; Miss Alice Jenkins, Savannah, Mo., crochet-work; Lillian Faas, Leeds, Mass., description of "Cosy Corner"; Miss Effle M. Safford, Stillwater, Saratoga Co., N. Y., crochetebed-spread and pillow-shams, diamond lace and head-rest; Mrs. F. H. Turner, Idaho Falls, Idaho, description; Mrs. Lizzie Cockrell, Charlestown, W. Va., descriptive letters; Mrs. Emma Englert, Scappoose, Oregon, dresstrimming; Mrs. R. H. Richardson, Pierce City, Mo., chair for grandma; Mrs. Maggie K. Allen, Argentine, Ky., crocheted throw; and others might be added did not space forbid. However, those who are interested in the subjects set down against the last list of names might write to each other and make an inte

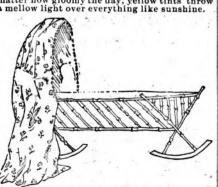
get in length and cost about fitteen cents a pole. They are cane-brake poles and grow in southern portions of the United States.

"The first thing I made was the cradle. For this take three pieces for the length, 31-2 feet long; four, three feet long; two, two feet long; 28 pieces 20 1-2 inches long, and five pieces 22 inches in length. Cross two of the 3 ft. pieces, 14 inches from the end. These are the ends of the cradle. Join one of the longest pieces to each of the crossed parts, and each of the others to the tops. Screws are better than nails for this purpose. Fasten the five endpieces in proper position. Use for the sidepieces the smallest of the pole. Now fasten the rockers on. A carpenter will make them. Take some brown paint and paint it in little spots at the joints to resemble bamboo. Line the inside with blue denim tacked on with brass-headed tacks. Curtains over the top of a cradle are indispensable for keeping off drafts. Wire made the foundation for mine. The curtains were of yellowish China silk with a spray of brownish flowers. It was edged with silk balls to match the flowers.

"Then I made a screen with three wings. This requires six poles, each five feet long; the middle leaf is 21-2 feet wide, while the other two are 13-4 wide. A piece is inserted four inches from the top and six inches from the bottom in each leaf. On the larger frame ten smaller sticks each three inches apart are put in between the two pieces. These smaller frames require 7 sticks each 3 inches apart. The leaves were joined by hinges, and covered with yellow silk the same as the curtains of the cradle. Corner shelves to keep playthings, books, etc., on require 3 poles, each 61-2 feet long. Have 6 triangular shelves, the front edge 20 inches long. The bottom shell is screwed 1 inch from the end of the poles, each of the poles being screwed to one of the corners. The second shelf a curtain of silk, the same as that used on the 'screen, with a row of brown silk balls to the bottom of the curtain.

"Nursery chairs may be made

"The reason for choosing yellow, was that no matter how gloomy the day, yellow tints throw a mellow light over everything like sunshine.



"The picture frames were very easy. The pictures I painted. Some of them were yellow roses, great yellow and purplish pansies, and a nest full of yellow, downy, fulfy chicks. The foot-rest was 9 inches high 10x8. It was cov-

BAMBOO CRADLE.

ered with the silk, put on with brass-headed tacks, and a curtain 4 inches deep tacked around the edges."

Mrs. B. R. Dudley, 519 N. 2nd St., Richmond, Va., writes:

Mrs. B. R. Dudley, 519 N. 2nd St., Richmond, Va., writes:

"I desire to make a practical suggestion to your readers who are not able to supply themselves with an ice-box, refrigerator or water-cooler for use during the hot weather, and cannot buy one. For years we simply wrapped our daily suppy of ice in an old blanket and laid it away in a box. An old blanket will prevent rapid wasting, but it will leak, causing an unsightly spot on the floor. This summer we determined to plan something better, and this is what we did. We first secured a medium sized barrel, strong but bottomless; an empty 50 lb. tin lard can with a cover; an empty butter firkin, which fitted to the top of the barrel as a cover, and three bricks. We next dug a hole in the wood-house several feet deep and sunk the barrel in it, banking the dirt around the sides. Within this on the ground, we arranged the three bricks as a rest to keep the tin from touching the ground. Then after drilling several holes in the bottom of the tinto make it "leakable," we placed it upon the bricks, covered the barrel with the butter tub, and our "ice-box" was complete.

"When our ice is delivered, we wrap it securely in paper (a non-conductor) and place

ered the barrel with the butter tub, and our "ice-box" was complete.

"When our ice is delivered, we wrap it securely in paper (a non-conductor) and place it within the can. As the ice melts it drains through the bottom of the tin into the ground. The bricks allow free ventilation, so that it is comparatively dry. We frequently take the tin out and sun it in the morning before the arrival of the iceman, and occasionally give the inside of the barrel a good liming to prevent mould and unhealthy odors. Our butter, lard, milk and meats, we keep within the tin in suitably covered vessels, so as to come into direct contact with the ice. In the space outside the tin within the barrel, we keep melons, fruit and vegetables. Our 'Comfort' ice-box cost next to nothing, but it is very satisfactory, and supplies a need which is felt by many hundred families. I have lately added a low HOME-MADE ICE-BOX. shelf on the ground outside, upon which to remove the several articles, when I wish to crack a piece of ice for a pitcher of water.

"The butter firkin has its special advantages. Sometimes, as when we place a melon or an ex-

a pitcher of water.

"The butter firkin has its special advantages. Sometimes, as when we place a melon or an extra bucket in the barrel, the contents extend above the top, and a flat cover would not answer. The convex tub breaks the heat somewhat, and thus aids in lowering the temperature within. Of course the tin which holds the ice has a good cover which is always kept closed, so that its contents receive no injury whatever from vegetables, etc., outside."

Mrs. Flora Wyman, 15 Washington, St. Brad-

ice has a good cover which is always kept closed, so that its contents receive no injury whatever from vegetables, etc., outside."

Mrs. Flora Wyman, 15 Washington St., Bradford, Pa., says:

"A set of home-made book-shelves has already been described in Busy Bee's column; but I have something, so entirely different and so pretty that whether this secures a prize or not, I would like some of the Bees to try it. Mine were not intended for books, and would be hardly suitable for them. I had quite a collection of curios and oddities that I had picked up in different places of which I was really proud. I had no place to keep them until I made these shelves. You have often seen and admired the large toad-stools that grow about old trees and logs in the woods. I found three of different sizes, that were nearly twice as long as wide. I took them home and, after breaking off all the bits of old wood, painted the smooth surface white. I used the common white paint, such as is used for inside work, and had to apply four coats to make it look right, but if you have the white enamel paint, so many coats are unnecessary. The other side I painted black, and followed the little wavy lines in gold. When dry I varnished it, and made three holes through each toad-stool, one in each end, and one in front. I had painted a piece of rope black, varnished it, and this was put through the holes, making a large knot just under each shelf, to keep it from slipping. The largest toad-stool made the lowest shelf, and the smallest one the highest. The black side is the under part of the shelf, and is very uneven, but that is its beauty. Careful housekeepers will condemn this because it gathers dust so easily, but if you will hang a piece of old muslin or calico over it when sweeping, the dusting will not be so much work.

"Here is something else that has been a 'joy forever' rather than a 'thing of heauty' in our

piece of old muslin or calico over it when sweeping, the dusting will not be so much work.

"Here is something else that has been a 'joy forever' rather than a 'thing of beauty' in our household. Baby's rocking chair was too high for her to get in and out easily, and so I made her a little seat like the following: get a board twelve or fourteen inches square ard cover one side with dark cambric. Pad the other side to a depth of two or three inches with something very soft, an old quilt, or, if you can get the material used by upholsterers, of course that is best; only don't use cotton, for that packs so easily. Take a piece of plush three inches larger than your board, stretch tightly and tack on the under side. For the legs, go to the nearest hardware or furniture dealers and get four clothes pegs of the largest size. Mine are about eight inches long. Screw these on the under side of the board at the corners, and baby's seat is finished. This can be made more elaborate by getting fancy brass furniture tacks or 'nail-heads' an inch across, or just the thickness of the board. Tack them about the sides close together, gild the curved iron legs, and with a dark green or navy blue plush cover, you have a handsome foot-rest. The plush I used was the trimming of an old skirt, not worn, but badly soiled. I had always heard and read that plush could not be colored or washed on account of crushing the pile, but this was useless as it was, and I determined to try an experiment. I colored it a dark green, following the directions given on the package, then, taking it out of the dye, let it drain without wringing or squeezing. When it had stopped dripping I stretched it smooth on a table, and with a stiff brush, brushed the nap all one way. This part requires care. The nap must lie down smooth as satin, and is allowed to dry that way. When perfectly dry I brushed the other way, and back again, and the plush looked like new. After making the stool, I had a large piece of plush left, and with this I recovered the worn-out pl

holsterer's bill."

I never saw or heard of any one making a toad-stool cabinet before, except my own; which was made more than ten years ago, and in which the toad-stools were left in their natural state. No painting or gilding can equal the natural striping and marking of these strange excrescences; and a good coat of varnish is all that I should advise. The initial cut gives an idea of how they look when finished. Next month we will give instructions for the fish-scale work, which is so rare and beautiful.

BUSY BEE.



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MME. A. RUPPERT S FACE BLEACH.

MME. A. RUPPERT says: "I appreciate the fact that there are thousands and thousands of ladies in the United States that would like to try my world-Renowned Face kept from doing so on account of the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. or 3 bottles when the price will have been kept from doing so on account of the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is \$2.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is all the start that \$1.00 per bottle. Or 3 bottles when the price, which is all the start the price, which is all the start the price, which is all the start the sta

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Consisting of Double-Breasted Coat, two pairs of Knee Pants, and a nice Hat—all made to match—out of the same piece of cloth—ages 4 to 15 years.

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LADIES Wishing to make \$25. a week at home, writing, address with stamp, Louise O. Fairfield, South Bend, Ind.

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OW the wind does blow, doesn't it, children? What do you think the poor sailors out at sea will do in such a gale as this? Hear the windows rattle and the bare boughs creak in the wind, and remember that it is a hundred times worse than this, when it is real downright rough out at sea.

This is a good night to talk about the life-saving stations a long the coast, and to learn how they save ships in distress within significant of the coast, and to learn how they save ships in distress within significant of the coast, and to learn how they save ships in distress within significant of the coast, and to learn how they save ships in distress within significant of the coast, and to learn how they save ships in distress within significant of the coast, and to learn how what are the life-saving stations?

Well, about a dozen years ago, the government thought something ought to be done to save the hundreds of brave sailors who perish near the shore in bad weather, after having braved dangers, perhaps for many months. So these life-saving stations were established all along the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts. There are 242 of them now, supported by the government. A good substantial house is built, big enough to keep the captain and eight or ten men. Attached to it is the boat-house where the big strong life-boat, the smaller life-car, and all the rest of the things ever likely to be necessary for their use are kept. There is a living-room with books and papers and maps and charts, in the house proper. Back of that is a dining-room and a neat little kitchen that reminds one of a ship's cabin, it is so snug and tidy. The men do all their work, and very good house keepers they are too. They take turns at "the mess" as they call it, so that each one does his share. Up-stairs are their bed-rooms which are very trim and cosy. Everything is built for warmthand solid comfort, and these men have things ever their quarters on some fine day.

But let us see. Are they always so comfortable?

But let us see. Are they always so comforta-

But let us see. Are they array and ble?
No matter what the weather, one man must patrol the beach for several miles each side of the station every hour of every day and all night. These watches are divided among the men so that no one does patrol duty more than six hours in succession. He must keep close watch of what is going on at sea, as far as his eye can reach, and that is much farther than yours would, because his long practice makes his sight perfect.

watch of what is going on at sea, as far as his eye can reach, and that is much farther than yours would, because his long practice makes his sight perfect.

At night the patrolman carries a lantern, and always a spy-glass. On a pleasant starlight night in the spring or fail, this walking up and down is not such a very hard thing to do; but there are some terrible nights in the winter, when it is almost as much as a man's life is worth to be out in the fearful storms that sweep the coast. And of couse these are the nights of all others that there is danger of the ships foundering; and then the patrolman must pace wearily up and down his few miles of rough and storm-swept coast, with the wind tearing at his clothes, and trying to blow out his little tight lantern, and the snow or rain pelting him, and above all the bitter cold trying to overcome him and drive him exhausted back to the station.

But he does not give up. Let us play we see such a man now, struggling along the coast of Massachusetts Bay, through ice and snow and over slippery rocks. He has been walking here three hours and his feet and hands are numb. But he keeps his eyes turned bravely toward the water. Suddenly he stops and peers anxiously at the bank of thick fog that has been coming in from East'ard for an hour. He watches a minute and then—yees, it is a vessel m distress. He forgets that he is cold and numb and hungry. He turns and runs, on his half-frozen feet, towards the station. He sees one of his mates farther up the line, and signals him. Word is passed on to the station quickly, and by the time the patrol has arrived there the men are already getting out the lifeboat, and the car, and the breeches-buoy and the mortar, and hundreds of feet of stout cables and rope. They move like clock-work and yet they seem to fly. The life-boat is thirty feet long and so constructed that the roughest sea cannot capsize it. As soon as the alarm is given at the station, the men inside run to the boat-room. Two of them push back the wide rolling doors on





"BANG! THERE IT GOES!"

The rest look on, feeling already that their lives are saved. For that little billet of steel is their salvation.

is their saivation.

How?

The sailor is at the top of the mast now. He is making the rope which it brought fast to the mast. Another rocket is sent, and other ropes are fastened.

are fastened.

Do you see this round thing which is shaped more like the baby's teething ring than anything we can stop to think of now-a great round, rubber ring, inflated with air. What do you suppose they are going to do with it? You will see. By means of these pulleys, it goes whirling across the roaring, briny deep, over to the ship. Look, as many as can, through the field-glass and tell us what you see.

"We see a man get and what you see."



waters to the land!" Yes, and they will keep this breeches-buoy—for that is its name—going back and for the land until everybody is saved. It don't take long, for it goes very fast, and the men are in a desperate hurry. But there are some ladies and a child on board; yes, and a sick man. What can they do? They can never get into the breeches-buoy and skim over here in that way.

Watch those sailors on shore. See that

wanning the Life-boat.

What can they do: They can never get into the breeches-buoy and skim over here in that way.

Watch those sailors on shore. See that queer-shaped little boat that they are hauling out of the life-boat. Looks like a big peanut, don't it? Now, see them fasten it on to the ropes that go over to the sinking ship, and now they work the pulley and away it goes! In a few minutes it is over to the ship. The top comes open like a box-cover, and the woman and the child and the invalid get in together. Now it is closed up tight again, and here they all come towards the land! Isn't that wonderful? They get out of the life-car and are hurried over to the station to be warmed and fed; but the brave fellows who live there do not go yet. They send the breeches-buoy over again and again, until finally every soul on the ship is saved. And then they man the life-boat in again, until finally every soul on the ship is saved. And then they man the life-boat in saver to the captain's appeal, thinking they will try to save some of the property of these wrecked people if it is possible to get there. The captain gets in and the eight men behind

jump in as if they were one sailor with eight legs; for these men are trained just as closely as soldiers are, and their movements are all quite military. But there is no need for them to try to brave the waves, for the vessel from which they have just brought away thirty-six people is sinking. She gives a lurch and her bows settle in the water; and now we can see nothing of her but two tall masts. She has sunk.

nothing of her but two tall masts. She has sunk.

Let us go up to the life-saving station. The men are there before us. The rescued ones are thoroughly chilled, wet to the skin and miserable. But the station is already warm, though the fires are again replenished. Hot coffee is made and handed around and plenty of good plain food brought out. The ladies and the sick man are put to bed in the rooms up-stairs while the child—a tiny little fellow five years old—runs around among the men and gets acquainted with his new friends. And how long has this all taken?

It is only fifty-five minutes since the men pushed out the life-boat.

To-morrow morning they will all go home. It is nearly night now, and there are no trains from this lonely out of the way station to-night. So these thirty-five men will bunk around the fire to-night, thanking God even for this safe warm place. The life-savers give up their rooms to those more helpless than they, but



they are such generous-hearted as well as brave fellows that they will not mind it. And they will get up early and provide a nice warm breakfast for the rescued party in the morning. And when the latter get aboard the train, with hearty thanks mixed with good-byes to their life-savers, and wishing them all sorts of good things, turn their faces toward home and friends, the life-savers will go back to their lonely duty of watching the angry, sullen sea again, and to lonesome days and dark chilly nights.

But there! some of you are asleep already. Wake up now and go to bed; and next month we will see if we can find something interesting enough to keep you awake.

UNCLE CHARLIE.

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CONSUMPTION CURED.

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said the old darkey. "It aim' for de time he charge so big, nor 'tain't for de use ob de instruments, nor 'tain't for de muslin ob de bandages; it's for de know how?"

Now that is precisely what French cooks charge and are paid for; it's "de know how?" It isn't the time it requires, nor the expensive materials it makes see of; it's the knowing how to do it, that has given French cooking its reputation, and makes it' the delight of discriminating eaters, the world over.

And why shouldn't American Bousekeepers "know how," too? There is no reason in the world why they shouldn't. It's just a question of patience, and willingness to accept new ideas, and to make experiments, and not be discouraged by a few failures.

If that is all, why haven't American housewives learned something more about French cooking, in all these years? Nobody accuses American women of being anything but quick-witted and glad of new ideas, when they are good ones. Why haven't they learned French cooking, then?

Because they haven't had time. Because American women—the rank and file, the bone and sinew of American womanhood—have been too busy helping American men build up the essentials of a country, to study how to enjoy luxuries—by luxuries here meaning matters that cost time, whether or not they cost money. The pioneer mother, east, west, north and south, was so weighed down with the idea of the number of stomachs, big and little, to be filled three times a day, and tickled with pie between meals, that she could not give any previous hours to studying how to prepare the food for those stomachs in the most wholesome and appetizing way. Small blame to her! Whon we have to knock together a shelter to keep us from the weather, we don't stop to construct artistic corner shelves, or plan cushioned window seats! The good housemother, living away out back of beyond," as the saying goes, was too busy with the solid necessities in the way of cooking, to get time, or will, or opportunity, for that mater, to learn how the French, or anybody else, did

before us in procession, what a nightmare procession it would be! And how the black imp of dyspepsia would chuckle, as it passed!

And these sins are not all sins of the past. The present has its share of them. Only there is no excuse for them any longer. American housemothers, who always had the wit to learn the very best ways of doing things, now have more time to learn, and ought to have the will to learn, the very best ways of cooking. Some of these ways are those of the French cooks whose name is famous, the world around. And seme of these ways, good American housewives, COMFORT is going to teach you; and much comfort, I do assure you, will come to you and yours from learning the lesson.

Let us begin learning the lesson just here and now, by finding out a few things in which French cooking differs from American cooking, and is better.

First of all, French cooking has immensely more variety. For every single way an American house-keeper cooks a bit of meat, a French cook can teach her a dozen ways. Take-a cut of beef. When the American housekeeper has roasted it the first day, and warmed it up in slices, in its own gravy, the second day, and perhaps 'made 'hash'-dreafful name!—from its odds and ends, the third day, if the beef hash't come to an end, her patience with it has, and the remains of it go to the pigs. Now give a French cook thateut of beef. He would, first of all, req ire the butcher to send home not only the cut itself, but all the 'trimmings' from it; the bits of bone and fat and outside edges, that were cut from it to make it shapely, for roasting. Out of these 'trimmings,' our French cook would make us a dish of very appetizing soup, with which to begin our dinner. He would put all the 'trimmings' -the bits of bone chopped up, so as to yield all their marrow—into a small kettle, add three piffs or so of cold water, and set it where it would come to a gentle boil.

ley that every housewife can grow from seed, in a box, in her sunny kitchen window. When dinner time comes, the soup would be strained through a colander, or coarse sieve; a pinch of pepper and another of celery-salt—celery-salt can be bought for twenty cents a bottle, and a bottle will last a year—added; and then the French cook, before serving, would add to the strained soup whatever was to give it its name, for that day. If it was to be macaroni soup, he would have a few sticks of macaroni standing ready boiled, in salted water, to put in it; if it was to be crouton soup, he would have some bits of bread-crust cut into little squares and toasted in the oven, ready to put in; and so on, a different addition to the soup, each day, and a different name for it. And there would be the first dish of the dinner. And its extra cost would not be five cents. Then would come the beef, in its first serving, as a fresh roast.

For its serving the second day, I do not think our French cook would warm up the left-over beef in its own gravy; but would try to prepare it in some such form that nobody should guess it was a second serving; there is something in the very sound of "warmed over" that takes away the appetite. He might serve it as a Spiced Beef Roll; or as a Beef Pie; or as Beef Croquettes; and then there would be nothing warmed-over about it; and the family would feel themselves very well treated indeed, at having fresh meat dishes every day.

How would he make the Spiced Beef Roll? Like this. He would cut the cold meat into long, thin silces. Then he would be into a little ball. Then he would put it to boil in yesterday's gravy, thinned out with hot water, and he would boil the rolls an hour. He would put them on a platter, with a tiny sprig of parsley stuck upright in each one. Before pouring the gravy around them, he would soil the rolls an hour. He would put them on a platter, with a tiny sprig of parsley stuck upright in each one. Before pouring the gravy around them, he would still the slice, and there our Fr



THE FIRST DISH AT DINNER

breath merely in naming over the various seasonings that stand ready in little pots, and are stopped up in little bottles, and hang, dried, from kitchen hooks, ready to make homely dishes delightful, in the wise handling of the French cook!

Just about here, some readers will again lift up their aggrieved voices, and say, as Dickens' dear Bella Wilfer used to, "You old thing! There you are again, with your 'pinch of something impossible!" Not a bit of it, dear housewives! Not one of the things! have mentioned is impossible to you! You who have gardens can raise all your year's herbs, in one wee garden corner; sage, and thyme, and marjoram, and all the rest. And you who haven't gardens can buy enough, for ten cents, of any of these herbs, to last you twice a year. As for catsup, which of you hasn't a bottle of walaut or tomato catsup always on your table or your shelf, without it ever occurring to you to introduce it to your souppot or your stew-pan? As to tarragon vinegar, all you have to do is to enclose, to any grocer imany big city, ten cents in stamps, with the request they send you its value in dried tarragon; and when the queer-looking stuff comes, just drop it into a quart bottle of vinegar, and let it soak; and there you have one of the most famous flavoring-stuffs of famous French cooks. And thus, with a little foresight, you can supply yourselves with seasonings a plenty; and when you are learning from your cook-book, or the columns of Competer, to cook something new and delightful, you won't have to give it all up, because the directions ask for that "pinch of something impossible!"

possible!"
"This is a digression," as old-fashioned novels used to say. It is a very important digression; be-

cause it shows you how easy it is to keep by you the flavorings that win half the battle of good cookery. Now let us talk a little about the croquettes which the French cooks find such an appetizing way of using up what is left of our cold roast beef, after we have made our spiced meat roll, and our beef pie, "Croquettes! Why that is what people have at grand dinners and suppers! That is a French dish! We never could learn to make those!" Dear Comport-loving housewives, do you know what croquettes are? They are nothing more nor less than a kind of glorified make. A rose by any other name may smell as sweet; but hash by a French name tastes a great deal better. Looks a great deal better, too!

other name may smell as sweet; but hash by a French name tastes a great deal better. Looks a great deal better, too!

To make croquettes, you must free your cold meat—it may be beef, or lamb, or veal or chicken—of all its gristle. Chop it as fine as you possibly can. Boil enough potatoes to make, after they are mashed, an equal quantity to your chopped meat. Mash them while quite hot, and mix thoroughly with your meat. Add two thin slices of onion, also chopped very fine. A liberal sprinkling of sait; a dust of pepper; five drops of tarragon vinegar; the grated peel of half a lemon; one egg, thoroughly beaten. If the mince thus made is too soft to "shape" in your hands, sprinkle in flour, very cautiously, until it is stiff enough. Shape it, with your floured hands, into nice little round balls, or into oblong rolls, pointed at one end. Have a kettle of boiling hot fat. Mind, a kettle, not a saucepan; and with fat enough to quite cover the croquettes when they are plunged into it; just as you would fry doughnuts or crullers. Try your fat by dropping a bit of bread into it; it is right for the croquettes, when the bread browns very quickly, without burning. Roll each croquette lightly in flour; lower it gently into the frying-kettle with a wire spoon. Fry a crisp brown. Have a double thickness of brown paper on a square platter. Lay the croquettes on this paper as you lift them from the fat; it will absorb all the surface grease, and leave them crisp and dry. Serve on a flat dish, ornamented with parsley-tips. And there you have one of the best-known dishes of French cooking; and how much trouble was it to prepare it, after all? Have I made it clear to you that the secret of French cooking is not in the costliness of the mater-



A PLATE OF CROQUETTES.

ials it uses, but in the skill with which it uses the materials? Then we are ready to have some Comportable talks together, about how to do French cooking with American materials; than which there are no better nor more abundant materials in all the cooking world!

"You've given us ever so much theory!" I hear other readers say. "Give us a little more of the applied, and the practical!" Very well; here are a quartet of receipts which if you follow carefully, your households will ask when you engaged your French cook, and how much you pay him a month!

TEA WAFFLES.

Take two tablespoonfuls of mashed sweet potatoes, one spoonful of butter, one of sugar, one pint of milk and four tablespoonfuls of wheat flour. Mix all together and bake in waffle irons. Serve hot for supper.

RICE COMPOTE.

RICE COMPOTE.

Boil four tablespoonfuls of rice, until soft, in equal parts of milk and water. Add two teaspoonfuls of butter; two tablespoonfuls of sugar; a pinch of salt; a pinch of cinnamon. Flavor either with the grader and of a lemon, or a few drops of essence of lemon or vanilla. Build into a wall, around the edge of a deep preserve-dish, and fill in the centre with any fruit that is seasonable; stewed or preserved peaches, pears, plums or figs or prunes; or oranges cut up very fine, the seeds removed, and thickly sugared.

PORK COLLOPS.

Take three or four slices of cold roast pork. Chop fine; add salt and pepper, two tablespoonfuls of butter, add enough hot water to moisten thoroughly; simmer in a saucepan. Toast several slices of bread from which the crust has been removed, sprinkle with hot water and butter thickly. Pour the stewed pork over the slices. Drop an egg, for each slice, into boiling water, and when cooked lift out with a skimmer, and lay on top of the stewed pork.

NUT COOKIES.

NUT COOKIES.

Take a cup of the chopped meats of any good nuts; peanuts will do; English walnuts are best. Add one cup sugar; salt to taste; one beaten egg; 2 tablespoonfuls milk; 1-2 teaspoonful cream of tartar, 1-2 teaspoonful saleratus. (Or a good baking powder may be used.) Add the grated rind of a lemon. Thicken with flour until the cookies can be rolled out. Bake in a quick oven.

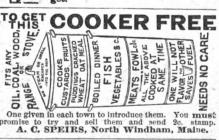
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All correspondence for this department should be directed to Sunshine Circle, care of Comfort, Augusta, Maine.

EAR FRIENDS:

When I glance at the pile of letters before me and think how many of you are vaiting anxiously to see them appear in these columns. I feel as if I must give all the space possible to you and ask you to take for granted all the kind and sympathetic things I would most gladly write to you if Comfort could spare us double the space. And this reminds me of one thing I must sayplease do not send letters which belong by right in the advertising department, for I cannot put them in the "Sunshine Circle." Try to bear in mind that this circle is meant for an interchange of sympathy, and not at all for business purposes. Indeed it would be in-directly wronging the publishers who so kindly give us this valuable space to attempt to use it in that way.

We have exceeded our first intention and allowed requests for other things than reading matter to creep in, but these requests are be coming so very varied and so numerous that we shall, I think, be forced to go back to just reading matter and pieces for fancy work. quests for stamps come in almost every other letter: it would be impossible to heed them all; and what think you of requests for servants, and for a wife?

Well, dear friends, I must give you the floor, but in order to let as many as possible be heard I must ask you to be very brief-a great

heard I must ask you to be very brief—a great deal can often be expressed in a few words. Edith H. Adams, 423 West 8th Avenue, Winfield, Kansas, writes:

"Won't you please put my name in the columns of the 'Sunshine Circle' so that perhaps some other Shut-In may remember me with a letter or some other way? I am 23 years old and have been a helpless invalid all my life. I have never walked, and am too helpless to feed myself. I enjoy reading matter, though some one else has to read to me, as I cannot hold a book. My mother does everything for me though she, too, has delicate health. This is the first time I have sent my name to any such circle, but I feel I shall gain sympathy and love by joining Comform's Shut-Ins."

Mrs. Legrand Whaley, Stump Knob, Tenn.,

MRS. LEGRAND WHALEY, Stump Knob, Tenn.

MRS. LEGRAND WHALEY, Stump Knoo, Tenn., writes:

"I have been a Shut-In for five long years, unable to see after my household cares. I have three children, and it is very trying for my husband to have to work so hard and be unable to help him. I have nothing much to amuse my self and children with, and hope the friends will remember me and send reading matter or anything to pass away the long dreary hours with; also letters would be highly appreciated."

MYSER REVELECTION OF THE MEMORY AND WITH THE MEMORY AND T Miss Bettie Ferguson, Latham, Baldwin Co.,

Ala., writes:

"I have taken Comfort for more than two years and it has been a heap of comfort to me. I have been an invalid a number of years and fear death. I have not been to church for many years. I live in the country where it is very lonely and should be very glad of cheering letters and something to read. I cannot read anything but plain writing. Please remember me in your prayers."

MARCIA F. KING, 820 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo., writes:

Mo., writes:
"I have been a sufferer but God has given me back my health, and my heart goes out to you all. I have time to devote to you and should esteem it a privilege to send you letters. Let me share with you the sunshine of a loving, hopeful, Christian heart."

MISS EMILY WEEKS, Mosca, Costilla Co., Colo.,

writes:
"I enjoy reading Comfort. I have always had poor health, some of the time can hardly walk at all. I do fancy work and I like to read. Won't some one send me some good reading or quilt pieces of any kind? I am a Christian, and don't know what I should do if I didn't have a God to go to in my troubles."

MRS. SADIE MILLER, Mineral Ridge, Ohio,

writes:
"Please say to the many kind readers of the blessed 'Sunshine Circle' that I thank them for the many beautiful books, pictures, papers, and amusing things sent to our invalid daughter Leah. She is much better now. Oh, how many kind hearted people there are in this

cheering letters from almost every state in the Union, showing how well-beloved Comfort is. God bless the 'Sunshine Circle' and all Comfort readers."

AMANDA WHITE, Frametown, West Va.,

MRS. AMANDA WHITE, Frametown, West Va., writes:
"I am an invalid, very lonely, with no one to care for me, and if the friends that are willing would send me a block of calico 12 inches square for my quilt it would be thankfully received. Should also be happy to receive a letter party on my birthday, the 18th of August."

I wish to say just here to the Shut-Ins that we often receive letters one month asking for letters on the next. Please remember our copy must be prepared for the press three weeks ahead, also that letters must wait their turn, which may not be for three or four months. Can the friends write to Mrs. White now?

DOLORES DE LA PORTILLA, Leon-Gta-Mexico, a constant reader of Comfort would like to correspond with some one who can write Spanish, and she will send her some things.

MRS. M. J. SIMMONS, Anthon, Parker Co., Texas, has been a subscriber to Comfort three years. Her health is very poor and she has long been a Shut-In. She would be very glad of letters.

J. H. OAKES, New River, Tenn., has been afflicted all his life with scrofula and is not able to work. Would be glad to receive letters. KATIE PATTERSON, Eliott, Mo., a little Shut-n of 13 years, would be thankful for reading

Mrs. M. A. Murphy, Modest P. O., Clermont o., Ohio, a cripple, would be glad of reading matter.

matter.
Miss Emily M. Wheaton, North Branford, New Haven Co., Conn., thanks the friends for letters and other tokens of remembrance received on her birthday. She is entirely confined to her bed and never free from pain. She would be very glad of letters or reading matter, but cannot answer letters promptly on account of ill health, or answer at all unless stamps are enclosed, being poor.

JENNIE CRAWFORD, Box 366, Mendon, Mich., has been an invalid three years with disease of the hip. She is only 14, but is trying to bear her affliction patiently.

BENJAMIN C. KNIGHT, Enfield, Halifax Co., N. C., has not walked a step since 1864, birthday, Oct. 21, would be glad of tokens of sympathy.

MISS AGNES A. SIVER, Northville, Wayne Co., Mich., a long suffering Shut-In would be thankful for reading matter or any curios for a Comfort collection.

JOSEPH EVANS, Woodland, Union Co., Ohio, n invalid unable to walk a step, would like to ecome a member of Comfort's "Sunshine Cir-le"

Miss Lizzie Lowe, Rutledge, Grainger Co., Tenn., has been afflicted since childhood with spinal disease, and would be pleased to receive shells or mineral specimens.

MISS S. A. JONES, Bells Depot, Crockett Co., Tenn., LILLIAN GOULD, Box 852, Skowhegan, Maine, LILLIAN FAAS, Leeds, Mass., and GEO. T. STEWART, 1911 SO. 7th St., Philadelphia, Pa., all have interesting reading matter they will gladly send to any one who will pay postage for the same. MBS. E. A. KENNEDY, Golden Rod, Lycoming Co., Pa., will send seeds of vegetables or flowers, and J. G. NOLEN, Cramford, Laurel Co., Ky., will send fossils of ferns if postage is sent with the request.

postage is sent with the request.

Thanks for reading matter, letters and other tokens of sympathy are sent from Nina Hyer, Claud Sloan, Mrs. S. M. Sutten, Mrs. E. Tarbell, T. J. Bunten (who would like cousin Wee Wee's address), Chas. T. Zepp, Melrose, Carroll Co., Md., Box 57, (birthday the 19th of Oct.)

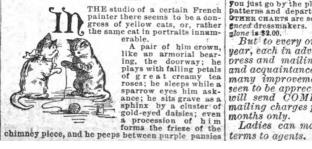
I have taken so much space with your letters, dear friends, I have hardly room to say a closing word. I wonder if a few words from the best of all books, that sometimes comfort me when things go wrong, as they are sure to once in a while with everyone, would comfort you; they are, 'Brethern, the time is short.'' Summer has gone by rapidly, winter we need not dread for that will also soon pass away. So with all our trials; they come, they go, like dread for that will also soon pass away. So with all our trials; they come, they go, like "shadows passing through the land." Let us bear them sweetly, patiently—it is hard to kick against the pricks—and there is great peace in resignation. Dear suffering ones, whatever be our trials let us strive anew this month for patient, cheerful submission.

SISTER MARGARET

THE YELLOW KITTEN.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY ALLEINE C. WATTS.

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erable

on the Sevres tea service in the corner consecrated

to Madame.

Eight years ago Maurice Lenoir dwelt in a garret earning his bread by copying pictures, nourishing his soul with dreams of a great classic canvas of his own. Needless to recount the disillusions, privations rebuffs, or the nervous reactions of the days when he received a few francs.

The unrelieved pressure of poverty, the unremitting blows of ill luck—tap, tap, like a paver's mallet—became unbearable. The thin blood of semi-starvation mounted to his head, creating visions of suicide.

One evening he hought and median desired and the second control of the control of the second control of the secon

vation mounted to his head, creating visions of sufcide.

One evening he bought poison. Re-entering his room something soft brushed past his feet. He lighted a candle and began to write a few lines, merely to save trouble at the inquest. Suddenly there sprang upon the table a little buff kitten; it rubbed caressingly against his face.

Evidently a waif, one of the surplus ninefold lives of nobody's cat. It was thin and famished, its wet fur frayed by the jaws of some dog.

"One may be tired of life," said Maurice, "but one does not leave a guest hungry."

With bread and milk, all he had, he fed the kitten; then warmed it within the breast of his coat, where it caressed with its tongue the hand that held it, then purred itself to sleep.

Maurice reflected: "Suicide is the refuge of one who has no longer hopes, ties of affection or responsibilities. In receiving this kitten I have assumed a duty. To place this little creature for warmth upon my heart, and then turn that warmth to ice would be a betrayal. At least I will live until to-morrow."

In the morning the little cat appeared so pretty Maurice painted, and was able to sell its portrait. Another was ordered, and another.

M. Lenoir's pussies became the fashion. He deferred his dream of classic canyas and painted only

M. Lenoir's pussies became the fashion. He deferred his dream of classic canvas and painted only cats; he divined, under their masks of drowsiness or caprice, the subtle charm and wisdom adored in old Egypt.

Egypt.

The yellow kitten that saved his life also brought him fame and fortune. And M. Lenoir proved not ungrateful; the yellow cat, now patriarch of a tribe, has his cushion of amber velvet, and his saucer in the atelier, and wears a golden collar inscribed, "To My Benefactor."

Driving the Brain

at the expense of the Body. While we drive the brain we must build up the body. Exercise, pure air -foods that



make healthy flesh-refreshing sleep-such are methods. When loss of flesh, strength and nerve become apparent your physician will doubtless tell you that the quickest builder of all three is

Scott's Emulsion

of Cod Liver Oil, which not only creates flesh of and in itself, but stimulates the appetite for other

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A LONG PROCESSION

•1 diseases start from a torpid liver and impure blood. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures every one of them. It prevents them, too. Take it, as you ought, when you feel the first symptoms (languor, loss of appetite, dullness, depression) and you'll save yourself from something serious.

In building up needed flesh and strength, and to purify and enrich the blood, nothing can equal the "Discovery." It invigorates the liver and kidneys, promotes all the bodily functions, and brings back health and vigor. For Dyspepsia, "Liver Complaint," Biliousness, and all Scrofulous, Skim, and Scalp Diseases, it is the only remedy that's guaranteed to benefit or cure, in every case, or the money is refunded. is refunded.

About Catarrh. No matter what you've with Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy. The proprietors of this medicine agree to sure you, or they'll pay you \$500 in cash.

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These watches are fully warranted and at retail would cost \$28 to \$30, but to introduce our paper they will be given free. We will give you one without a cent of money from your pocket. Remember, you take no chances—you cannot lose—for we give a watch FREE to every person complying with our offer. If you want one (lady's or gent's) write to us 50c, postal note for our large 16 page story paper one year and you will receive our ONCE A MONTH CO., 7 Jefferson Ave., Detroit, Mich. Box 463.

Once a Month Co., detect—Thate received the watch just as you said I

Once a Month Co., Gents:—I have received the watch just as you said I ould, and I must say I was very much surprised, as it went beyond all my spectations. Jacon Barks, Toledo, Ohio.

entlemen—My gold watch just received, and it is a beauty. It is aston-ig how you can give sawy so fine a watch but you have done precisely as promised. MARY ANDRESON, Portland, Oregon.

GIRLS READ THIS! FREE RINGS.

Do you want one! No. 1, genuine diamond; No. 2, genuine poarling. No. 2, genuine poarling. No. 3, solid gold band beautifully engraved. Allare warranted. We only ask a few hour's over 20,000 girls have received presents from us the pastyear. Send for our illustrated circular and see all the premiums we offer. Write at once as we want you NOW. I. H. Association, 269 Bearborn St. Chicago, Ill.

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One Heaven's Tape Measure.
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Lucky days for October are said to be the 2nd. 10th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 18th, 20th, 21st and 29th; unlucky ones, 8rd, 4th, 6th, 14th, 16th, 17th, 19th, 23rd, 26th, 27th, 28th and 31st.

The opal is the lucky stone for those born in October, according to ancient superstition. It denotes hope, and sharpens the sight of the possessor of it. This is Queen Victoria's favorite stone, and she considers it particularly desirable. According to an old rhyme:

"October's child is born for woe And life's necessities must know; But lay an opal on her breast And hope will lull those woes to rest."

This has been a year of almost unparalleled disaster, both by land and sea. Railroad accidents, so numerous that it is almost impossible to enumerate them; loss of ships at sea; large and seemingly unaccountable fires which have swept towns and villages; tornadoes, cyclones and what might be styled an epidemic of murders and suicides, have made up a record that would hardly have been believed a year ago, if it had been prophesied. In fact, however, it was prophesied. One of the most eminent astrologers of the age predicted last December that 1893 would see the death of several eminent statesmen (Blaine, Butler and Hayes); the sickness of the President of the United States: and a remarkable crop of disasters both by sea and land. Many skeptics did not believe him then; but no one thinks of denving the truth of his predictions now.

There are many curious things about this ancient science of astrology; and every reader of Comfort, whether he believes in it or not will be interested in the predictions we shall present in the near future.

Every reader of Comfort has enjoyed our ac count of Lieut. Peary's second start for the North Pole, and will be interested to know that he has reached the place on the coast of Greenland where he is to make his home for the winter. Although it is farther north than any point ever reached by any white person before, and nearer that end of the earth's supposable axis which is termed the North Pole than the Esquimaux uaually live, nearly a hundred of them have moved their goods and chattels, and settled around his comfortable little house; so that he will not be without plenty of neighbors, and friendly, kind-hearted ones, too. In spite of newspaper dispatches to the contrary, Lieut. Peary has four times as many dogs as he had in 1891-1892, and more than any explorer on Smith Sound ever had before: the exact number of them being eighty-four. He has seventy-five or eighty reindeer and a very large amount of walrus meat stored away for winter. He is better armed than before. He is pleasantly settled with plenty to eat and to keep him and his numerous family warm and comfortable. His prospects were never so bright before. May they winter happily, and his coming discoveries be in proportion to the remarkably good success that has so far attended his journey into the White North. Indeed, may he bring back to us a real, bona-fide sample of the North Pole itself.

The fate of Emin Pasha, the great African Explorer, interests the whole world. twenty months nothing had been heard from him until the latter part of August when re liable news came that he had been killed and eaten by cannibals near Lake Victoria Nyanza. To add to the inhumanity of the action, it was done by a son of Tanganyika, the old friend of Dr. Livingstone, who was first to tread the interior wilds of Africa. Emin Pasha, as he was commonly known, was a German-Edward Schuitzer by name. He was a scientific man, and the chief purpose of his life for fifteen years past has been to extend the German territories in Africa and add to the limited knowledge of that strange and difficult continent. A part of that time he was with Stanley, but of , late he has been at the head of carayans of his own, having for his main purpose the desire to cress Africa through the unknown belt north of the Congo basin, visiting Lake Tchad, promoting Germany's interests in regions still unappropriated, and emerging at the Cameroons on the west coast. His design was not authorized by the German Government, but if he had succeeded all his eccentricities would have been forgotten in the brilliancy of his con-

quests. As it is, his record and achievements are something remarkable. Wholly cut off from civilization for five years, he yet maintained firm control over a great territory, kept the natives at peace, and made them helpful; and by promoting agriculture, and the making of cloth, leather, and other manufactures among his thousands of Egyptian dependents, he secured for them comparative comfort. Amid all his onerous duties, this man of thorough scientific instincts and training incessantly pursued his studies. His researches were made in many fields, and to botany alone he contributed more new species than any other African explorer except Schweinfurth. If it is true that he has been eaten by cannibals-and there seems hardly a doubt of it at the present writing-one of the most horrible wrongs to civilization ever committed has been perpetrated.

In view of the recent hard times and string ency in the money market, it may be well to note the fact that a majority of the endowment orders and so-called benefit-associations have gone to the wall, and millions of dollars, taken by them from the pockets of hard-working people, are locked up in the hands of receivers to-day. It is now some years since these "Benefit Orders," "Helping Hands," "Protective Leagues," etc., were started. They began with nothing but high-sounding titles, imposing lists of names, and most seductive of all, promises to pay the trusting depositor \$10, or thereabouts, for ever \$1 paid in. They printed elaborate sets of rules in most cases, requiring guarantys that the depositor should pay in a certain amount of money every month or every quarter, with provisos for assessment at any time when they seemed necessary to the "gov-erning board." For instance, by paying in \$20, approximately, annually for five years, with assessments extra, the depositor was guaranteed. in return, that at the end of five years, he should draw out \$1,000, unless he had previously drown out something in case of sickness, which amount should be deducted from his \$1,000. For-and here perhaps the benefit part really did come in-if the depositor fell ill and could furnish a written physician's certificate to that effect-he might draw out \$20 a week until he had drawn \$100; and the depositor who was fortunate enough to be ill; got back at least what he put in. But those who were so unfortunate as to keep well got nothing back; for within the past year, the courts, and in some cases the legislatures, in various States. have closed up many of these concerns, stamping them, as they deserved, as gigantic swindles. In Massachusetts especially—the "good old Bay State," the home of the Puritans, and formerly the Pink of Propriety-have these frauds and swindles flourished. As usual in such cases, the victims have been largely women and young girls-dressmakers, clerks, sewing-women, teachers, even, (who ought to know their arithmetics better than to suppose they could increase \$1 to \$10 legally in five years) took money from their scanty earnings to put into this new fashion of lotteries. Three



they could increase \$1 to \$10 legally in five years) took money from their scanty earnings to put into this new fashion of lotteries. Three mines of the property of the prope

ribbon, and hem them around the bottom with a fancy stitch in floss. These dresses are neatly made of white, washable silk. The afternoon dresses are finished at the hem with a scallop and a tracing of white silk. The fine dresses have a deep embroidery upon the skirt, and the waists are also embroidered. The christening robe is a mass of soft silk embroidery with a ruffle of embroidered chiffon veiling the skirt. There are twenty pairs of shoes, made at home of fine, white chamois skin embroidered with white floss.

All these things are pleasant to know because they give us a glimpse of the home life in the Executive Mansion. "One touch of nature makes the whole world kin"; and there is no sweeter "touch of nature," nor one that reduces all womankind to the common level of maternity and home love, so quickly nor so surely, as a little baby.

A Story of The Indian Massacre.

WRITTEN FOR COMPORT.

Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.



Twas a clear, bright morning in the month of August, 1883, the years of the Great Indian Massacre in Minnesota. The woods were full of birds that were singing as though there was noting but the woods accomfortable log house the Minnesota river, stood a comfortable log house and two small children aged six months and two years. On the morning on which our story opens Mike was milking under the shade of a large elm tree and talking to himself as he was apt to do when alone. "Sure, and this is a foine country I'm after coming to," he said, "with its big woods and rich land. Sure and O'il be afther sinding for the ouild folks if Ol prosper so well another year." At the same time his wife, Mattie, was busy getting break-fast in the house. She paused in her work to look out at the bright world outside, at the fast ripening corn, the yellow stubble, and green woods. She hummed a tune, but suddenly stopped and looked anxious. A smoke was rising over the woods. Could the woods be on fire? Surely not when they were so green. At once she thought of the Indians, Could the woods be on fire? Surely not when they were so green. At once she thought of the Indians, Could the woods he confired with the family and sent me to warn

ramily and sent me to warn all who did not know of it."

He rode away to warn others, and Mrs. Hayden, with a white, scared face, ran fo tell her husband. "Gather up a few things that we will need, get the babies ready and we will start as soon as I can get the horses up." was her husband's directions.

He started to the yard for the horses when he heard a horrible yell, and saw fity or more Indians coming down the road in hideous war-paint and feathers, brandishing their tomahawks and guns, and yelling like so many demons.

Mike Hayden had always been the Indians' friend, feeding them when hungry and warming them when cold, but he knew that a Sioux Indian on the war-path cares neither for friend nor foe. They are all one to him. He kills and destroys everything in his way.

A great deal quicker than it takes to tell this, Mike Hayden had sprang into the house, and catching up the oldest child and telling his wife to bring the baby and follow him, he started for the woods.

Mattie ran in a straight course, but as her husband sweved a little to one side he was seen by the Indians, and instantly was riddled with bullets and arrows. The child in his arms being killed at the fest shot.

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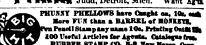
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The Chance Of a Lifetime.



s Note. The following rules govern the ablication of matter in this department.

Publication of matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular subscribers to Comfort, and every contribution must bear the writer's own name and post office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may reach 50. Contributors must write on one side of their paper only.

Every month a number of prize monograms composed of the writer's initials, will be awarded to those sending the best contributions. These monograms, which will be most desirable ornaments for stationery, cards, etc., will be printed in connection with the respective letters, and new electrotypes of same will be mailed, post paid, to the prize winners.

\$10 CASH PRIZES \$10

In addition to the foregoing, the following cash prizes

will b	e pa	id 1	monthly	y:			
1st.	For	the	best or	igina	l letter		\$3.00
2nd.	44				original	letter.	2.50
3rd.	64		third	**	"	**	2.00
4th.	44	**	fourth	**	**	**	1.50
5th.	. "	44	fifth	**	**	**	1.00

Competitors for these monthly cash prizes mus-comply with all the above rules, and in addition mus-bring at least one new Cousin into the Comport cir-cle; that is, they must send one new subscriber with each letter, together with 25 cents for a yearly sub-scription.

cash prizes will be announced monthly in

C. C. Malone, Lotta A. Weaver, Herbert E. Barrows, Cora E. Bailey, Florence E. Hogan, E. F. Ross, Mary E. Cole,

Abigail L. Squire.

Mary E. Cole,

Abigail L. Squire.

BAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES:

While it is a great pleasure to conduct this department and receive letters from so many dear Cousins all over this "land of the free," the awarding of prizes is anything but a pleasure! You seem astonished at this. Well the well the to go far for the reason; in fact, it can be given in a nutshell.

While I would like to give hundreds of cash prizes, feeling that so many Cousins merit them, I can, under our published offer, give but four! Don't you see the difficulty of my position? I assure you it hurts me more than it will. disappoint any of you, to seem to slight anybody. I contess I have been guided partially by the real merit of letters themselves, and partially by the evidences I have had of genuine work on the part of the competitors. For instance, certain of the Cousins have not been content with sending in one good letter; but have sent two and three apiece, with the requisite number of subscribers and sometimes more, with each. I did not think it fair to overlook this fact. Again some of the letters sent in have been excellent and well-written; but their interest was rather local than general; that is, they treated of something that would interest only a few out of our five million readers. You must remember that a paper which goes into one million, two hundred and twenty-one thousand homes must treat of things broadly, and of topics that interest the largest number possible. I regret to add, too, that a few, only a few, are not original; they write on subjects we have already treated, or else borrow their ideas from some one else. As our friend, Mr. Kinsabby would say, it is not wise to mix up honor, honesty, and hard-pan-common-sense, with dishonor, disorder and dishonesty.

Well, you are waiting to hear the awards. I hope you will all agree, on looking over the letters of the past few months, that they are all richly deserved. As I said, I am only sorry that hundreds more deserving Cousins cannot be remembered too.

To Edward H. Ziska, 448

ished.
To Mrs. C. C. Malone, Hudsonville, Miss., letter on
fexico in this number, third prize \$5.
To Mrs. I. C. King, Oswego, Kansas, letters pub-ished heretofore and in this issue, fourth prize of

22.50. We will lead off this month with Mrs. Malone's letter, which is exceedingly well-written, and will interest you all. She furnished the illustration, and commend both style and matter to your intelligent

commend both style and matter to your intelligent study:

"Having seen nothing from Mexico, I thought a description of a trip once taken through a portion of that promising, though as yet undeveloped country, might prove of interest. I was en route to San Luis Potosi, my future home. There is not much to be seen from Laredo to Monterey, the country being rather barren, but as you near Monterey it becomes a cxceedingly rich, and is under a high state of cultivation. It is an attractive sight, the country all through them, and the products coming up in long green rows. The seenery between Monterey and Saltillo is perfectly grand, and has to be seen to be appreciated. The distance is about sixty-five miles, and it is straight up-grade, requiring two large locomotives to pull a Irain of twelve cars up it. It is one immease mountain after men, some receding from the track, and some apparently projecting over it, all making one feel very insignificant, as he winds around and between them on a little narrow-gage railroad car. Some of-them are nothing-but layer upon layer of immense rooks. The train stopped for an hour or two at the cld historic town of Saltillo, and we went on a tour of investigation and saw many strange things, but I have only space to a town, we countied to a spend upr time finding its source. After coming to the end of the street, and winding around a mountain at the brck of the town, we found the spring from which the cannear the top of the mountain. It was a large basin of clear, limpid water, about four feet deep, ten the spring, through which the stream flowed. The water is confined to its course down the mountain, and often breaks into kalls, formed by artificial ditches. From the main stream, branches run all over the town, so arranged as to increase or diffinish the supply of water as required. We went down the mountain and often breaks into kalls, formed or diffically the control of the control of the mountain and often breaks into kalls, formed to the control of the control of the control



woked or threatened. Kindness will win the flercest animals, and I am sure this young Cousin has a kind heart:

"I am fourteen years old, and I would like to tell the Comport Cousins about my two pet cats. They are pole-cats. They are four months old, and are about the size of common cats at that age. They are just alike and all black, excepting a white cap on the head. They are very tame, and I handle them and stroke their backs as I do our other cats. They run up and down their pen and play together like kittens. Sometimes I put my yellow kitten in with them and they all play together. Our other cats spit and growl so when I take them to the pen that I do not dare to put them in; for I think you all know that a skunk when frightened or angry is a very unsavory animal. If you are gentle and kind with them they will not make themselves disagreeable. They eat johnny-cake and milk now, but when they are older they may have meat and fish, also. It would make them have fits to feed them with meat while they are so young; but they dig in the ground and get worms to eat. Their pen is about nine feet long and four wide. The boards which form its sides are sunk in the ground about a foot, so that they can't dig out, and the top's covered with fine wire netting, that they may not climb up and get out that way. At one end of the pen is a covered box partly filled with hay for them to sleep in. I paid \$2 for my pair of skunks. I bought them of a man who has a skunk farm in Connecticut. He had nearly a hundred when I got mine. He had a quarter of an acre fenced off for them to run in, and all about this space were placed boxes or nests in which they slept and had their young. One of the old skunks would go out of, or into his nest, as his master told him. Another was so tame that they let him go into the house just as the house-cat did. We were a little shy about going inside the skunk's enclosure, but the man told us there was no danger, so we went, and the pole-cats behaved beautifully. This man keeps them for their skin HERBERT E. BARROWS, Plainville, Norfolk Co., Mass.

Here is an entertaining and instructive description of the peanut:

Here is an entertaining and instructive description of the peanut:

"The peanut is an annual plant with long, hairy pinnate leaves, which have four leaflets. This nut is grown in all warm climates. It flourishes in light, sandy, but fertile soil. The flowers are yellow veined with red. After flowering, the flower stalks lengthen and bend towards the earth into which the pods penetrate and ripen underground. The pods are lined with a kind of net-work, and contain from two to four seeds, which are generally about the size of a hazel-nut of a kind of sweet taste. These seeds are sometimes eaten raw, but usually boiled or roasted. The roots of the plant have qualities resembling the licorice, for which it is sometimes used. The herbage is good for cattle. The chief importance of the plant is owing to the fixed oil which it contains. This oil is used for the same purposes as olive oil, either for lamps or table use. It is utilized in Spain in the manufacture of soap, and of chocolate. A bushel of the seed yields about a gaillon of oil. It is an important article of commerce. The seeds are dug up as roots usually are. The plant was introduced from Peru to Spain and then into France. It succeeds even in the middle of France, where it is sown after all danger of frost is over."

FLORENCE E. HOGAN, 60 Woodruff Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.
We have published and illustrated one letter from

two weeks. The ascents and descents of these magnificent mountains, and their rugged scenery, were something to remember forever, but it was all so barren and sandy and desolate looking, devoid of all verdure, that the travellers concluded they would not exchange one green acre in Sunny Kansas for all the country we were passing through. On the homeward route, when they again caught sight of the lovely gardens and green fields of dear old Kansas, their hearts leaped with joy. Yes, Kansas has borne a bad name in the past, and is not too highly spoken of at present, unfortunately; but it is nevertheless a most beautiful State, quite as advanced in refinements, cultivation, fine dwellings and business houses as the older States. But, as the long epistles are to be consigned to the waste-basket, I must cease singing her praises and close with, Au revoir."

I. C. King, Box 464, Oswego, Kansas.

A vast prairie fire must be a grand sight—much

A vast prairie fire must be a grand sight-much more grand and beautiful at a distance. Only those who have experienced its dangers, however, can truly appreciate them:

more grand and beautiful at a distance. Only those who have experienced its dangers, however, can truly appreciate them:

"It was late in May, 1893. The drouth was severe. One Saturday evening while looking toward the mountains in hopes of seeing a rain-cloud, we saw instead a cloud of smoke, but it caused little alarm; for we knew that for fifty miles in that direction there was no place that a human being called home. The wind Sunday morning disclosed the fact that the fire was nearing us. Breakfast over, the first one to go to the door startled us with the exclamation: "The fire is upon us." Absalom hitched our only available team to the wagon and hastened to meet it at the nearest point, only to find that our one neighbor had been fighting it single-handed for an hour. Soon wagons were on the road laden with plows and barrels. Solitary horsemen appeared from every part of the settlement and sped toward the scene. Windmills were loosened from their fetters and chattered their willingness to assist in the work of the hour. Horses plowed the line for four or five miles, others were urged to their utmost hauling water, with no time to offer the jaded animals a drop of the precious liquid; while men fought the front of the fire with wet cloths, hoping to prevent its crossing the arroya. High noon arrived, with the mercury 85 degrees in the shade; miniature trees stood upon quivering lakes, but none heeded the mocking mirage for they hoped soon to gain the mastery. Mercedes and I commenced the preparation of coffee and sandwiches for the overworked men, and no better opportunity being offered, we pressed into our service a horse and buggy, both on the superannuated list. As we approached we found the fortune of the day changed, but the men still working furiously. They signalled us to get out of the way and soon began the stampede, while the fire snatched at their beard and clothing, and the horses barely escaped with singleing fetlocks. We hastened toward our little plantation of green trees, wondering if the gr

The ways of God's tiniest creatures are often very curious and instructive. "Go to the ant, thou slug-gard, and be wise," is as good advice to-day as it was in King Solomon's time:

"One night while working in my flower beds, I witnessed the most interesting incident of its kind I ever saw. The garden has s to nes around it for a border, and as I was pulling the grass and weeds between them, I lifted up a stone which had not been disturbed for a long time, and under it found. I should say, several hundred

about as large around as a pin and about one-fourth of an inch long, and running around them was about one-fourth as many little red ants. Upon closer inspection I discovered the white things to be their eggs. But the most interesting part was watching those little ants carrying off their eggs. There were several small holes in the ground, which I suppose were their homes, and just as fast as they could run with their bulky load, they would carry the eggs into the holes. I watched them for fully ten minutes. At the last, they worked slower as if tired, but would not safely deposited in their houses. It was indeed an object Irsson. How faithfully they worked until all was completed. A great many times they would tumble down and drop their precious hard-

wine.'
"'Can't help it,' replied Mr. Jones, 'it was there on the table; you might have had it.'
"The doctor paid the money, but inwardly resolved to 'get even.'
Accordingly on his next visit, when about to leave, he handed Mr. Jones a bill for five dollars for medicine for Mrs. and Miss Jones. He (Mr. Jones) raid the money grumpling

that was just the way with women.
They were always buying things they did not need at all.' The doctor had not proceeded far when he was halled by Mr. Jones, who exclaimed: 'The women say they did not get any medicine; that you did not give them a thing.' Said the doctor, 'I can't help that, it was there in my valise. They might have had it;' For once our voluble landlord had not a word to say, but re-entered his bar-room amid the jeers and laughter of the bystanders."

CORA E. BAILEY, Bridgeville, Humboldt Co.,,Cal.

Here is an amusing extract from a very long letter:
"While sitting on the veranda of the capacious hotel in the little Maine town of A——, enjoying a quiet smoke, I became very much interested in the conversation of some sportsmen who had just returned from a pleasure trip to C—— Pond, a beautiful sheet of water about seven miles from the village, and while listening to their wo...derful tales of big catches of fish and feathered bipeds. I determined to try my duck the coming morrow as a sportsman. It was a delightful morning when I started, and merrily followed the little stream through the centre of the fertile valley, entering the forest about two miles distant, where I found great sport hunting and fishing, I I had come prepared to stay all day, and to camp out at night. I enjoyed myself until dark, but with the early twilight merging into darkness a sense of loneliness came over me, and I realized for the first time that I was alone in the heart of a wild unsettled region. A saucy owl, perched upon a tree directly in front of the camp, flapped his wings and impertinently greeted me with, 'Hoo-hoo-hoo-hoo-hoo-er you,' as if he anticipated the pleasure of sharing my evening repast. By this time my camping out fever had entirely abated. The stillness became oppressive, and, at last, terrified by the dismal weired cry of the loon, I groped my way out into the Here is an amusing extract from a very long letter:

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UUNSUMPIIUN SURELY CURED. To THE EDITOR—Please inform your read-

ers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cored. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy free to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their express and nost office address. T. A. Slocum, M.C., 183 Pearl St., New York.



CHICAGO WATCH CO., 281 Wabash Ave., Chicago.



unbroken wilderness which separated me from the outer world. The crooked path crossed and recrossed the river frequently and was easily lost; and after wandering back and forth in vain, leame to a huge log which spanned the river, and carefully crawling over its slippery surface on my hands and knees, I struck the trail on the other side. As I hurried along through the dense forest, fearful of being clasped in the arms of some grim monster.

clasped in the arms of some grim monster, every bush seemed to fosome heavy animal stealthily approaching behind me. I stopped to listen! Yes, there it was again! Directly behind me! Turning quickly, I saw two bright eyes like balls of fire gleaming flercely in the darkness. Almost transfixed with terror I clutched my gun, tremblingly pulled the trigger, and with a terrific 'gee-whiz-z-bang' poured the contents of my double-barreled shotgun into the gleaming eyeballs of the midnight prowler. Then, with fleeing footsteps, I dashed along in my mad career, up hills, down hollows, never fallering, hardly breathing, until the monarchs of the forest were lett far behind, and I was in my own comfortable room at the hotel. I was perfectly content to tarry there the remainder of my vacation and confine my enjoyments to life within the limits of the village. Afterwards I learned who my stealthy follower of that eventful night was. What do you think' He was only an immense hedgehog, whose head I had unmercifully blown to atoms in my desire to rid myself of his unwelcome presence."

E. F. Ross, 147 Chatham St., Lynn, Mass.

Now there is just room for this little description of the new Mormon Temple, written by a Utah Cousin:

had unmerefully blown to atoms in my desire to rid myself of his unwelcome presence."

E. F. Ross, 147 Chatham St., Lynn, Mass.

Now there is just room for this little description of the new Mormon Temple, at Salt Lake City, which was dedicated April 6th to April 20th. 1823, is built of granite. and covers an area of 21,850 feet. The walls are 167 1-2 feet in height, 186 1-2 feet in length, and 98 feet in width. There are six towers. The middle east tower is 210 feet high, surmounted by a statue of the Angel Moroni heralding to the world the restoration of the gospel, a giant figure 12 feet, 5 incheshigh, gilded with pure gold leaf. Surmounting its crown is an incandescent lamp of one hundred candle power. The height of the central west tower is 204 feet. The east towers represent the President and his two councillors, and the west towers the presiding bishop and his two councillors. Each tower is provided with electric lights. The building is completely fitted up with electric light, a system of hot water heating, and perfect ventilation. Electric buttons throw open transoms in various rooms and start sixteen fans, each of one-half horse power. The building is absolutely fire-proof, and at the top of the southwest tower is a reserve tank, with a capacity of 7,000 gallons of water to be used in case of fire. The inner decorations of the Temple represent the history of the Bible. There are four floors, counting the basement, divided into rooms of varying sizes. The upper, or assembly room, being 120 feet long, 80 feet wide, and 36 feet high, has a seating capacity, including the gallery, of nearly 3,000 persons. The marble tiled baptismal room in the basement is very grand and impressive. The capacious bronze four rests upon the backs of twelve life-sized bronze oxen, a reminder of a like feature in the Solomon's Temple. This large room has a pavement and base of fine white marble. The corner stone of the building was laid April 6th, 1853, forty years having elapsed before its completion. The cost of this struct

and April oin, 1805, 1017, years maying elapsed below \$4,000,000."

ABIGAIL L. SQUIRE, Frisco, Beaver Co., Utah.

In addition to these letters, I desire to mention some others which would have been used this month if we could occupy all the space we want; and which reflect credit on the writers. Among them are: Hettie V. Page, Russell, Miss., description of a thunder storm; Luther E. Long, Shady Nock, Kentucky, description and history of Kentucky; Amy L. Hallenbeck, Seattle, Wash., a description of Gloversville, N. Y., where gloves are made; M. Elizabeth Gates, Wakefield, Kansas, good letter on Fort Riley, already described in Comport; Julia P. Betts, Smithwicks, So. Dakota, description of "Wind Cave"; Leander Harmon, French Lick, Ind., a neatly written description of the French Lick Springs—saline springs, so-named because they were famous "licking-places" for cattle; Pauline Kafka, Lenox, Iowa, historical description of Iowa, discovered in 1542 by De Soto, claimed by La Salle in 1682 and settled, 1788-1833; Charles H. Pettingill, Meadville, Penn., sends very good description of that town, and Harry F. Wood, North Springfield, Vt., a short letter on inlaid boxes; Miles Brand, North Pomona, Cal., writes interestingly of the orange crop in California, F. H. Baxter of Watsonville, California, sends a letter on beet-sugar; J. E. DuMoyer, Lancaster, Ill. tells something about the part of his State known as "Egypt"; Arthur S. Pope, Delta, Cal., describes California and its history; T. J. Callaghan, Bandon, Coos Co., Oregon, does the same thing by Oregon, both letters treating of matters already given space here; E. E. Rogers, Elgin, Kansas, sends description of Osage Indians and their dances; F. D. McMahon, Hartford City, Indiana, a not very lucid description of opage Indians and their dances; F. D. McMahon, Hartford City, Indiana, a not very lucid description of a paper mill.

That our prize monograms are appreciated by those who are so fortunate as to win them, is being constantly attested by Cousins from all part

THE HAUNTED CHURCH.

FOR COMFORT BY ALLEINE C. WATTS

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gan to drop heavy and black from the great cedar trees all about it—when there were strange rustlings over in the grave-yard and curious gleams of light in the windows, the old church was left severely alone with its ghost.

After a whole congregation had seen the pale, bearded face at the pulpit window one moonlight night, and had fled like wild things to their homes in consequence, that part of the announcements, "Preaching at early candle-light, and please bring your candles," was left off; and thereafter, there was day service only, in that part of the moral vineyard. Even in broad daylight, when so bold a ghost as the old sinner had made would not dare show himself to mortal sight, the round eyes of the negroes up in the gallery shot about furtively, hardly willing to believe in the sun's power of exorcising ghosts for as much as twelve hours at a time. After Uncle Abel Drayton saw the ghost dancing about in the gallery just before the moon rose, first at one window and then at the other, nobody could get a negro to pass the place, even in daylight, without company, and that of a pious kind.

Colonel Drayton's farm reached over to the grave-yard, and Uncle Abel carried his Bible every day when his work was in that part of the field, and laid it on the stump with his coat. All this began to be troublesome; the white people, almost as superstitious as the negroes, began to talk about investigating the matter.

Almost everybody had seen it, and all agreed that it was the image of the old man who had died without due preparation for the change; and those who had not seen it had heard it, for it was a lively ghost, and much devoted to the goddess Terpsichore.

The old man had been dreadful as a wicked man, but as a light and frivolous ghost he was surpassingly awful; for everybody knows that a well-regulated ghost walks slowlyashout, and if he belongs to an aristocratic family often carries his head under his arm. But a dancing ghost! It was a disgrace to the neighborhood and an insult to other ghosts that led

them honestly atraid, some almost ashamed to own a belief in such things, while others were in great trepidation lest strange and unheard-of things should befall them.

Arrived at the church a profound silence ensued until Uncle Abel exclaimed: "De Lawd be merciful, I see it!" pointing up to a window where the awful white object was executing a sort of war dance. They all looked. The ghost surprised, perhaps, at such a goodly audience, came to the window and glared out, with the moon staring him full in the face!

Ah, yes, there was no longer room for doubt. There was the old man with his long, white beard waving in the breeze, and his wicked, flery eyes shining in his pale face.

"Shall we go in?" some one whispered. A young man who had imbibed sufficient brandy to impart to him wonderful courage, declared his intention of doing so. And the others waited breathlessly, fearing the result.

The young man pushed the door open and entered. They heard him as he went up the stairs. Then there were awful noises in the church and a sound of many feet hurrying about. Just as the moon, having the advantage of the other spectators, sailed into a thick white cloud, the ghost sprang out, clearing the space between the door and the crowd it lighted among them, while yells and screams rent the air. The young man of the iron nerve and wonderful courage ran after it, roaring with laughter as he explained, "Why, it's just Col. Drayton's old Angora you, see?" And the young man pointed to the big Angora who was surpassing the wind in his flight for liberty across the Drayton farm.

HAPPENINGS OF A MONTH.

The noted evangelist, D. L. Moody, has been holding meetings in Chicago all summer.

Thirty-nine persons were attacked and eleven died of cholera in one day last month in Hungary.

Two women, a girl and a boy, rescued eleven men from the bow-sprit of a sinking ship at Point Look-out a few days ago.

out a few days ago.

The President and Mrs. Cleveland returned to Washington from their summer home on the Massachusetts coast, September Ist.

Only four out of our nineteen war governors, are still living. They met at Lake Winnepesaukee, N. H., last month at a veteran's reunion.

A young woman has just awakened in an Indiana hospital from a cataleptic sleep which has lasted two years. Hers is the most remarkable case on record.

From two to nine deaths a day from cholera has been the rule during the months of August and September, in Rome, Antwerp and other European cities.

A tremendous hurricane along the Atlantic.

A tremendous hurricane along the Atlantic coast near New Jersey, August 24th, swept off several small sea-going vessels, and rolled up a death-list of over sixty.

A couple in New Jersey walked forty miles to get married recently. The knot was tied in Paterson, and they settled down to housekeeping, footsore, blistered and weary—but happy.

A railroad riot at Gilbert, Pa., resulted in an armed attack by the citizens on the company August 22. Rifles and rocks were the weapons used; three men were killed and others wounded,

One of the worst railway accidents that ever befel the old Bay State took place Aug. 31, when a train crashed through a bridge over the Westfield River, smashing five cars, killing thirteen people and injuring twenty-five.

The steamer Savannah was wrecked off the coast of South Carolina August 30th on her way to Boston. Her passengers were taken ashore in boats and saved. Hundreds of smaller vessels were wrecked and disabled in the same tornado.

Hundreds of smaller vessels were wrecked and disabled in the same tornado.

An insane servant-girl at Mount Vernon, N.Y., seized her master, who was over eighty years old, and putting him between two mattresses, danced over him until he was nearly dead. He was rescued and she was placed in an asylum.

During one of the hurricanes of the latter part of August, a four year old boy of Jersey City strayed away from home into a swamp where he became stuck in the mud, and remained alone all night, not being rescued until noon the next day.

Ex-Secretary of State Evarts, one of the greatest lawyers in America, and the man who writes the longest sentences of any one living, celebrated his golden wedding at the country-home of himself and Mrs. Evarts, Windsor, Vt., August 30th.

A fearful fire broke out in South Chicago on the 25th of August, devastating twenty acres and rendering 1,500 people homeless. Two hundred homes, a lumber-yard, a coal-yard and two churches were destroyed and the loss amounted to \$500,000.

The worst railroad disaster that ever occurred on

The worst railroad disaster that ever occurred on Long Island happened on August 26th. Two passenger trains collided near Long Island City, killing fifteen people, and seriously injuring sixteen more, while seventy others were more or less hurt.

Nancy Hanks, the "Queen of the Turt," trotted in the presence of thousands of distinguished guests from all over the United States, including prominent foreigners, at Fleetwood Park, New York, August 31, breaking all records in the East at 2.06 3-4.

The head of the firm was shut into a refrigerating room of a meat company in New York in August, and was nearly frozen to death when he was found several hours after. He saved himself only by vigorous exercise while in confinement, and was seriously ill for weeks after.

TO CATARRH SUFFERERS

A clergyman, after years of suffering, from that loathsome disease, Catarrh, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a medicine which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending his name and address to Prof. Lawrence, 88
Warren Street, New York, will receive the means of cure free and postpaid.

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CONTEXTS:

Ah, how dright.
Ah,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Has been gotten up in every conceivable form imaginable, but it has fallen to the lot of a gifted engraver to produce this marvelous souvenir of mechanical and artistic skill. Every one is amazed when they come to examine them. What genius and patience is required to concieve and perfect the midget wonder, are the exclamations heard on all sides. Every child as well as all adults, should possess one of these charms. They are adapted for presents for all seasons of the year, and are the most desirable little souvenirs one could be wished to be remembered by. Although but just placed on sale, the Mfr's find it impossible to fill outside orders, so great is the demand. Our order coming first, the supply will last at least thirty days; so write at once and renew your subscription as per offer below. COMFOR has many new and novel good

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THE LORD'S PRAYER

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From Maine to California.



MAINE, Norway P. 0.—Enclosed find five dollars for which send me Oxien. I cannot say too much in praise of Oxien. It cured my 70-year old father of rheumatism.—Mrs. Geo. E. Towslee.

MASS., Fall River.—My life was despaired of, but after using one Glant Box of Oxien I became perfectly well and strong.—John Slim, Gen. Agt. Vt. Life Ins. Co.

NEW YORK, De Ruyter.—Oxien has ; benefited me more; than anything I ever used.—Mrs. William Sterling.

PENN., Saluvia, Fulton Co.—Enclosed find ten dollars for Oxien. Was crippled with rheumatism and other aliments. Oxien cured me, and it has done wonders for others.—Robert Sipes.

LOUISIANA, Lehmann.—God bless Oxien. It cured my; wife, for whom doctors could do nothing.—B. H. Green.

GEORGIA, Rocky Ford.—It is a Godsend to the world. Please send me another Giant box for enclosed dollar.—Thos. H. Stringer.

NORTH CAROLINA, Leggett.—Oxien has done me more good than any doctor's medicine I ever tried.—Caroline H. Hedgpeth.

ALABAMA, Chunchula.—Oxien is worth its weight in gold, and I would not be without it.—O.P. Ingersoll.

FLORIDA, St. Augustine.—For years I was a great sufferer from nervous prostration, but now I am well and strong again, and all to whom I give this Wonderful Food for the Nerves experience the same improvement.—Mrs. Ellen E. S. Phillips.

OHIO, Sharon Centre.—For a long time my husband had fits. Doctors could do nothing. Since he has used Oxien he has had no sign of his old trouble.—Mrs. John Houghlan.

ILLINOIS, Ridge Farm. made me feel like a new man. It it will.—Chas. Buell.

NEB., Howe.—It'has done

nine years' illness Oxien has brought me good health.—Mrs. Wm. Bantz.

MISS., McCool.—I scarcely hoped to recover, but Oxien'has made a new man of me.—W. B. Hull.

nine years' illness Oxien has brought me good nealth.—Mrs. wm. Bantz.

MISS., McCool.—I scarcely hoped to recover, but Oxien'has made a new man of me.—W. B. Hull.

MICHIGAN, Dundee.—I had a paralytic stroke January, 1891, and lost the use of my right side. I spent nearly 890, but Oxien is the only thing that did me any good, and it has done wonders. This is my first trial at writing since the shock.—W. W. Fleming.

TEXAS, Bowie.—May God bless you always for Oxien. I have no language to tell how happy and thankful I teel. After twenty years' affliction Oxien made me young again.—W. F. Rogers.

COLORADO. Highlands.—Oxien cured me of the worst stomach trouble I ever knew of, and it has done the same for others here with similar complaints.—Mrs. Wm. W. Hinckley.

NEBRASHA, Palmer.—Your Wonderful Food for the Nerves is doing wonders for my wife. Enclosed find \$T\$ for Oxien.—C. B. McCormick.

NEBRASKA, Palmer.—Your Wonderful Food for the Nerves is doing wonders for my wife. Enclosed find \$7 for Oxien.—C. B. McCormick.

CALIFORNIA, San Bernardino.—For thirteen years I suffered with catarih, but tried your Wonderful Food for the Nerves, and to my great Joy ann now perfectly well.—Miss Rosa Velasquez.

CALIFORNIA, San Francisco.—I was a complete wreck, but after using Oxien am now well and strong. My wife's health has been surprisingly improved also by your Wonderful Food for the Nerves. I send \$30 for a lot of Oxien and Plasters.—Jas. G. Bennett, Chief Engineer, Telephone Building.



From Poverty to Riches.

One agent says: "In half an hour I have sold ten dollars' worth (or at the rate of thirty thousand dollars a year profit) and still they are coming for it. The Oxien Electric Porous Plasters are doing wonders here."

Not a day passes but what scores of letters like the foregoing reach us from grateful men and women whose lives have been saved by our Wonderful Food for the Nerves, Oxien.

Every hour brings fresh proof that Oxien is the Food which Scientists have searched for; the MEDICINE which doctors have longed for; and the Relief which hopeless sufferers have prayed for. It gives new life,

new hope, new power, new vigor, new strength, new happiness state that the hope is the same of the weak and weary; and a Godsend to thousands of Home Workers who are making fortunes introducing it to their friends and neighbors. Write at once for free samples and terms to agents and secure your territory.

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50c. MADE IN A MINUTE! If you will agree to show the Lucky Investment Booklet we send you with free sempler to at least three feeble persons, we will send you in advance a 50 eent cash cert. This will trouble you but a minute, and as we pay in advance it is well audred and fifty thousand dollars we are giving away as premiums, lifting many from powerty to riches.

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\$100 PRIZE PUZZLE TO WINNERS, \$100

Prize Puzzle Club competition, as announced in Comfort from May to September, inclusive. As will be seen, the 2nd and 3rd prizes are divided equally between two winners. This was done between two competitors solved exactly the same number of puzzles, sent in exactly the same number of subscribers, and their letters were received at exactly the same number of subscribers, and their letters only just way seemed to be to add the \$20 and \$15, and divide them equally, which was accordingly done. Again, while those who did enter the competition worked faithfully, several solving over thirty out of thirty-five puzzles, there were not enough who showed the proper spirit of work, or who complied with all the conditions: consequently the \$22.00 which remained after awarding the first six prizes, has been equally divided among the eight who complied with every condition and made a thorough business, of trying to solve the thirty-five puzzles. That these were not difficult of solution is proven by the large proportion which were solved in each case. One boy of ten solved twenty-seven and another of fifteen solved fourteen out of the thirty-five. Here is the list of \$25: solved 33 nuzzles. HE following is the list of winners in our

the list of winners:

A. F. Holt, 19 Stephen St.. Lynn, Mass., 1st prize of \$425; solved 33 puzzles.

Mrs. E. H. Cooper, 240 E. Main St., Meriden, Conn., 2nd prize of \$17.50; solved 31 puzzles.

Mrs. Julia M. Hilton, Lynden, Whatcom Co., Washington, Box 116, \$17.50; solved 31 puzzles.

"R. G.," 10 Oxford St., London, Canada, 4th prize, \$10; solved 30 puzzles.

W. E. Wiatt. Gloucester, Va., 5th prize, \$5; solved 29 puzzles.

Mrs. B. B. Buckout, 226 N. Washington Ave., Saginaw, E. S. Michigan, 6th prize, \$3; solved 28 puzzles.

28 puzzles.

28 puzzles.

And to each of the following \$2.75 apiece:
George H. Stanbery, Hopewell, Ohio; solved
27 puzzles. Morgan H. Fish, 313 Glen Street,
Glen Falls, N. Y.: solved 26 puzzles. Gustavus
Stockman, 879 Bellevue Ave., Detroit, Mich.: 25
puzzles. M. M. Day, 91 S. Peoria St., Chicago,
Ill.; 25 puzzles. Mrs. F. B. Hancox, Stonington,
Conn., Box 339: 24 puzzles. Mrs. L. E. Curtis,
Freeport, Me., Box 94; solved 22 puzzles. Mrs.
J. B. Deane, Middleboro, Mass., Box 385; solved
21 puzzles. Ray P. Ells, 125 School St., Jamaica
Plain, Mass.; solved 14.

Following 18 a correct list of answers to the

Following is a correct list of answers to the

85 puzzles:

1. Misery loves company.

2. Fir, umbrella, palm, bread-fruit, smoke, weeping-willow, beech, tulip, bass, pear.

Blue
Lisa
User
Madearsand
Akin Area
Died Nero
Endsledaon Late Etta Dear

De ar

4, Pink. 5, Newport. 6, Wall. 7, The remedy for wrongs is to forget them. 8—1, Red Wing.

2, Jackson; 3, Warsaw; 4, Williamsport. 9—1, Peal, leap, pale; 2, Tame, team, meat, mate; 3, Tier, rite, tire; 4, Dear, dare, read; 5, Time, mite, emit. item; 6, Live, vile, evil. 10, Birds of a feather flock together. 11, The World's Fair.

12, Bigelow, Wallace. 13, The way of the wicked is as darkness. 14, Pit, top, pan, noon, net, trap. 15—1, pear, part, trip. rite, rift; 2, Goat, boat, boar, bear; 3, Lace, leap, gale, goal; 4, Unit, tine, fine, fife; 5, Mary, mare, male, Ella.

16, George Washington. 17, Cincinnati. 18, Swansea, Bradford, Ashburnham, Catskill. 19, Pig'O'a, H's, Q'is, L's, T's, S'x. 20, Gerry, Kerry, Earre, Parry, Surry, Worth, Huron. 21, Dogstar. 22, Jo Daviess, Rose Hill, Copper Mines, Orange, Fountain, Antelope, Rising Sun, Albert Lee, Hope, Moose, Rattlesnake, Mountain Ylew, Fixe, Dry Wood, Three Sisters, Augusta, Charlotte, Angelina, Turtle, Curry, Pineapple, Coffee, Yellow Medicine, Lake, Coffee Jo Daviess, Worth. 23, Haste makes waste.

24. And thou, too, whoseever thou art,

24. And thou, too, who soever thou art,
That readest this brief psalm,
As one by one thy hopes depart,
Be resolute, and calm.

Be resolute, and caim.
Oh, fear not in a world like this,
And thou shalt know e'er long,
Know how sublime a thing it is,
To suffer, and be strong.

Longpellow.

25, Japanese umbrella. 28—1, Lincoln, Madison; 2, Byron, Bryant, Lowell, Milton; 3, Wesley; 4, Lee, Sherman; 5, Duke of York; 6, Turner; 7, Abraham; 8, Alexander; 9, Bancroft; 10, Livermore; 11, Addison; 12, Standish, Maine. 27, Benjamin Franklin.

8.—
A pretty maid with sprightly tread
Came tripping down the street.
Her eyes were brown, her cheeks were red,
And dainty were her feet.

A comely youth with ardent gaze While pausing on his way, Unto the pretty maiden cries, "I beg you, dear, to stay."

"I thank you sir," the maid replied,
"I really cannot hear."
The youth passed on his way, and sighed;
The maiden dropped a tear.

29, Umbrella. 30, Between two stools he falls to the ground. 31. Bedridden, Steamboat. 32, Conrad, Caleb, Richard, Peter, Frank, James, Amos, Amasa, Andrew, Hosea, Arthur, George. 33, Nasturtium. 34, Up a tree. 35, The Chicago Exposition. Exposition.

Exposition.

On the whole the answers to the puzzles were very satisfactory, only one out of the thirty-five (No. 1) remaining unanswered. In several puzzles, where the conditions were fulfilled equally well by a different word from that intended, the answer received was adjudged as correct. Every latitude possible has been allowed to the contestants, that no one could have any chance to feel aggrieved, and that Comport, in this as in all its dealings with its patrons, should be not only just, but generous. We thank all the Prize Puzzle Club for the interest displayed, and congratulate the winners on their well deserved success.

WEATHER WISE.

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HIS is the man in the moon, but not the one that brings message to Mr. Kinsabby.

In other times, before old Probabilities had s weather bureau, and the government undertook to regulate the temperature of the country, every farmer and every business man used to predict the weather for them-

he a trick of

judging by the clouds in the southern northwestern sky, but by certain signs and rules pertaining to the moon's changes. man in a thousand has kept up these traditions, relating to the moon's influence on the weather; but there are certain authorities of ancient repute, to which Comport has access, denied to ordinary newspapers. And since it is according to these rules in a measure that almanac makers make up their predictions ahead, and since many of them are sincerely valuable, we will give the simple rules governing the changes of the moon, by which every Comport reader may (by following and applying them) be his own Weather Bureau, as it were. It all depends on the time of the moon's changes. A few general rules are these: The nearer the time of the moon's changes, first quarter, full or last quarter, is to midnight, the fairer will be the weather for the next seven days; the nearer to midday or noon these changes occur, the wetter the weather during the week following; the moon's change, first quarter, full, or last quarter, full, or last quarter, full or last quarter, full, or last quarter, full, or last quarter, pappening between four and ten in the afternoon, will probably bring fair weather; these observations apply to the summer principally, although they affect the other seasons also.

More specific rules are:

When the moon changes between midnight and two o'clock in the morning, the weather will be fair in summer and frosty in winter, unless the wind be south.

When it changes between two and four o'clock in the morning, the weather will be cold with frequent showers in summer, or sonwy and stormy in winter.

Between six and eight a.m., it will be very wet in summer, or cold rain in winter, unless the wind is east, when it will snow.

Between the and twelve in the morning, there will be frequent showers in summer, or cold and high winds in winter.

Between noon and two p.m., it will be changeable in summer, or snowy in winter.

Between two and four p.m., it will be changeable in summer, or cold rain of winter.

Between two and four p.m., it will be changeable in summer, or fair and milld in winter.

Between six and eight p.m., it will be fair, summer or winter, unle lating to the moon's influence on the weather; but

Between six and eight p.m., it will be fair, summer r winter, unless the wind is southerly, when it will e wet or snowy Between eight and ten p.m., the same rule applies;

Between eight and ten p.m., the same rule applies, and;
Between ten p.m. and midnight, it will be fair in summer, or fair and frosty in winter.
These are rules of a famous English authority, and have been used for centuries.
Cut them out and save them. Perhaps they will do you a good turn.
Oftentimes at sea, when the "ky is clear and all seems plain sailing with glorious weather for days to come, the captain or some other "old sail" will suddenly predict a storm. The inexperienced landsman finds it impossible to believe him, as there is no weather burcau possible to be consulted out thousands of miles to sea; but the old sailor has some occult knowledge gained from the stars and the moon, and the predicted storm is sure to materialize at the right moment. All of which goes to prove that there is something in the moon's changes and their influence on the weather.
However, to keep track of the moon's changes necessitates a great deal of sitting up nights with the man in the moon, and nobody but sentimental young ladles, nowadays, has time to do this. Consequently, Uncle Sam has taken this matter in hand, and hires "Old Prob" to predict the weather, to which all thanks are due him.

A PIECE OF COTTON CLOTH

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PIECE of plain cotton cloth is a simple thing enough, but the processes which brought boll are both intricate and interesting.

A walk through a big cotton factory reveals a number stages which make one feel a decided reverence for the roll of bleached cloth or printed calico, when it is done.

The cotton is bought in a raw state and brought to the mills. The carders take it first and separate the fibres carefully, by machinery, card and twist it into rolls of different degrees of fineness After it has gone through several machines, it comes out a fine single thread, for warp or filling, when it is, ready for the looms. After it is reeled off, it is is, ready for the looms. After it is recied off, it is taken to the weavers and woven into cloth, which leaves this room in webs of fifty yards or so, the surface of which is quite rough, with occasional fragments of seeds, etc., sticking to them. It is then run over great cylinders, passing close enough to a yardlong series of gas-jets, to scorch away all roughness and clinging substances without burning the cloth. This of course is a very nice operation, and depends on the regulation of the gas-jets to an exact degrec. When the cloth has passed through this process, it is ready to be put on the market as "unbleached cotton."

ready to be put on the market as "unbleached cotton."

Supposing, however, that bleached or printed cloth is desired. Immense vats filled with a hot solution of chloride of lime and other chemicals are steaming in the basement. In these the cloth is solided and bleached. Then it is rinsed, dried, and pressed on hot cylinders, and is ready for the market as "bleached cotton."

In another room are still other vats of dye-stuffs. The process of printing cloth is quite complicated. The designs are made by trained men and young women, in a light, siry room at the top of the building. Then dies are made from these designs and the cloth is run through the dye-presses several times, before it comes out printed and finished. Then it, too, is run over hot cylinders, pressed, measured and packed away ready fur the wholesale trade.

At a low estimate, it is probable that a yard of cotton cloth goes through the hands of twenty people before it is ready for market, and a yard of calico

ton cloth goes through the hands of twenty people before it is ready for market, and a yard of calleo through fifty; the first passing through ten processes in the mill, and the second nearer twenty. And when it is done it sells for from five to ten cents!

Moral—but we leave the politicians to draw the moral.

FARM NOTES.

It is better to keep sheep for mutton than for wool. Good livestock should be an adjunct to every grain farm.

A good farmer is always willing to learn and test the best methods.

One of the best ways to destroy weeds in the pas-ture is to keep sheep.

Wind-mills attached to driven wells will supply pure water to any part of the farm.

A study of fertilizers would be a great advantage to farmers during this coming winter.

Grass roots derive nourishment close to the sur-face; for that reason a top dressing is of great value A honey-room should be clean, warm and dry, and honey-cans or jars should be stored in such a place Teach colts to walk fast, and they will afterwards to more work in a given time than slow walkers.

do more work in a given time than slow walkers.

The cattle trough should be scrubbed out with a broom at least once a week, in order that they may have clean water.

It does not injure land to bear two crops a year if two applications of manure or fertilizer in sufficient quantities are applied.

A raw onion, rubbed thoroughly into the hide of an animal afflicted with lice, will remove all such perts



It is estimated that this country produces 2,200 pounds of grain to each inhabitant, or six pounds a day throughout the year.

day throughout the year.

Colts foaled in the fall will be ready to wean before spring's work. They will thrive better if given ground oats during the winter.

Turn sod under in the fall and it rots before spring, leaving the land in better condition for crops than if the ploughing is done in the spring.

Gravel has been called "hen's teeth." They must have it in order to properly digest their food. Therefore, be sure they have a plentiful supply.

If a cow or horse gets choked with an appotato, hold up its head and break an egg mouth. This is said to be a sure remedy.

A pig should make profitable pork when it is ten months or a year old. Very large hogs require so much time for growth that they increase the expense of keeping.

The test of dairy cows at the World's Fair shows that the best reach about 15 pounds of butter for the most favorable week's trial, yet private tests go far beyond that.

Spontaneous combustion has been known to result from storing hay before it was properly cured and free from dampness. This doubtless will account for the mysterious burning of barns.

Alsike clover was imported from France only a few years ago but has become very popular. The period of bloom is much longer than that of red clover, and it is ready to cut with timothy. Only half as much seed is required as of red clover, and it may be sowed either in the spring or in the fall.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Rub soap into the seams of creaking shoes. Borax water will remove stains on the hands. Butter was formerly used only as an ointment.

The nap of a wool hat will stop a bleeding wound. Fold dress skirts right side out to prevent wrink-ling. Shake carpets on a clear day when there is no wind

Gas tar around mice holes will drive away these

A camphor bag hung up in a room will drive away mosquitoes.

Rub ink stains on linen with clean tallow before washing and boiling. A gauze veil is the best protection for a sensitive skin on a windy day.

Nails may be driven into hard wood easier if they are first dipped in oil.

Warm soapsuds, with a little ammonia, will remove lemon stains on cloth.

Sinks which have become dull and dirty should be rubbed with turpentine or kerosene.

Salt dissolved in vinegar and well rubbed on is the best thing for cleaning brass.

The head of a match moistened and rubbed on inky fingers will remove the spots.

Rub the hands with celery or mustard to remove the odor of onions after peeling.

Warm your bread knife before cutting hot bread, and the slices will be smooth and nice.

The ashes of wheat straw makes an excellent silver polish. Apply with a piece of soft leather. Face your gowns with denim, which wears better and does not rub your shoes as canvass does.

Boil vinegar and salt in iron spiders to clean them then scrub clean with any good scouring soap.

A little soda in the water which you use to wash greasy kettles will cleanse them much quicker. Wash black stockings with soap that is free from soda and add a little vinegar to the rinsing water.

Touch a cold-sore with a ball of saltpetre moistened in water, and it will disappear, if not too far advanced A carpet with small figures wears better than one with large, and makes a small room seem larger than it is.

Lamp chimneys are best cleaned by holding them over steam and then rubbing with a soft cloth or

For try poison, apply bruised bean leaves strong tea of dried bean leaves will answer the spurpose. Add a teaspoonful of cornstarch to every six of salt when you fill the shakers, and it will never get damp

when you fill the shakers, and it will never get damp and lumpy.

Apply brick-dust with a piece of raw potato when you clean steel knives, and rust and stain will disap-pear quickly.

A tablespoonful of coal oil added to every half gal-lon of flour starch will give a beautiful gloss to the starched pieces.

Put a little piece of bread into water in which vegetables are boiled, and it will remove much of the unpleasant odor.

Boil a teaspoonful of saleratus in an old tea or coffee pot two-thirds full of water to remove discolorations from use.

Cold salt water or sea water is one of the best lotions to restore firmness to the fiesh. Bathe the cheeks upward and wipe dry.

Soak cauliflower, cabbage, etc., in salt water an hour before cooking to destroy minute insects that may cling to the leaves.

To extract stains from silk, take one part essence of lemon, and five parts spirits of turpentine. Mix and apply with a linen rag.

Try fine meal sprinkled on a grease spot in the car-et, and let it remain for several hours when it pet, and let it remain for a have absorbed the grease.

A good paste for cleaning metals is made of oxalic acid one part, rotten-stone six parts, mixed with equal parts of train oil and spirits of turpentine.

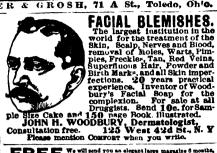
A famous cook says that to boil an egg properly it should be put into cold water set over the fire, and A sauce-pan in which oatmeal has been cooked, may be easily cleaned by putting a cupful of ashes into it and filling up with water a few minutes before washing. the moment the water begins to boil, the egg is done

An old-fashioned cement for broken earthen ware was made of one ounce of dry cream cheese, grated fine, and the same amount of quick-lime, mixed with three ounces of skimmed milk.

An old recipe for wrinkles is the whites of two eggs beaten with twice as much rose water, and half a tea-spoonful of powdered alum, dissolved in a spoonful of rose water, added to it. Apply to the face on going

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ery boy can have his own circ cents per dozen. Goatees, 5 cents each, four for 20 cents, or our cents per dozen. Goatees, 5 cents each, four for 15 cents, or the per dozen. Beards or Whiskers — white, gray, red. Whiskers who brown, and block. Frice, Full Beard (6) cents; Whiskers we town such control four of either for \$2.00. Any of shove goods mailed, postpoid, on receipt of price. In ordering, send small lock of hair or state solor desired. Address Morse & Co., Box 350. Augusta, Maine. Having a Big run, everybody needs it. A won-derful offer. This is a standard work of



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THAT AWFUL NIGHT.

BASED ON EXPERIENCE.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY EUGENIA CARTER

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alone, with only the noisy river for company.

How the wind howled! And how intense the darkness was! The waters seemed to be fairly boiling with rage. What if that upper dam should burst, during this inky were, that it would. What a terrible thought it was! I shuddered at the mere idea. But how very comfortable the fire was. Surely such a danger would not be allowed to come.

Little Margaret, our four-year-old, had knelt down and said her evening prayer, and crept with child-like trust into her soft bed, and pretty Robbie, six years old, with that implicit confidence which boys, as a rule, have in their fathers, had said, "Papa will take care of us, even if the river should come." Poor ittle rascals! Little did they know how powerless poor papa was, to avert such evils! But the faith of childhood is so sustaining, that I, too, would like to childhood is so sustaining, that I, too, would like to childhood is so sustaining, that I, too, would like to childhood is so sustaining, that I, too, would like to childhood is so sustaining, that I, too, would like to child asleep here in my easy chair, by the pleasant fire, feeling that although the angry river should burst over its boundaries, yet "some one would take care of me."

About eleven, things were somewhat more quiet, so I concluded I would walk to the barn and see about the horses. So uneasy had I felt that I had thought it best to leave them untied, thus making them free to run for their lives.

The barn stood about fifty feet from the house, and while standing near the barn door, one of the horses suddenly gave an impatient neigh, and breaking his bridle which I had just tied, rushed furiously into the black night.

I started in haste for the door, when lot the roar of rushing waters came to my ear! "The river! The river!" I shouted with all my strength, and rushed toward the house. How I ran! Would I never reach it! I stumbled on in the darkness. When half way there, the moon shone faintly through the clouds and looked upon a mass of yellow swirling, foaming waters rushing along, carrying trees and debris of most every sort on its bosom. Could I reach the house before the waters did? When it should touch my house, I knew too well what the consequences would be. If I might at least be allowed to suffer with my family, and not be separated thus, in this terrible hour! I seemed smothering; the air I breathed was stifling as the air from an oven. I dashed on, and then-fell heavily, having struck my toot against a stone in the dark. I rose and started again, but even in that short time the water had come with an awful "boom" against my house, and away it went like a leaf tossed on the waves.

I gave one groan and fell to the ground.

away it went like a leaf tossed on the waves.

I gave one groan and fell to the ground.

When I regained consciousness, my little Margaret was the first whom I recognized. What had happened? Where was 1? For awhile everything seemed strange, and then—I remembered all.

Then Robbie entered the room, his face sadly tearstained. I asked the children to tell me all, which they did. Their story was about as follows:

When the house was first struck by the ways its

they did. Their story was about as follows:

When the house was first struck by the wave it seemed that it would certainly go over, but it had managed to keep righted and thus floated on for several minutes. Just beyond a sudden bend, around which the waters rushed, the house dragged heavily on some large rocks and became very nearly stationary. Their mother, however, was nearly crazy with fright, for she saw no means of escape from this terrible death. She began snatching at the little ones, to drag them out of the window and hurl them into the water with herself. But for once they became obstinate and resisted her; but she, screaming frantically, threw herself out of the window into the rushing waters. It being dark, Rob and Margaret had immediately lost sight of her. They knew that they must now try to save themselves. They rushed to a window and began screaming for aid. "It think we ought to pray," said Robbie; "you know papa said God would take care of us." So down went



these two helpless children on their knees and said their little prayer, and instead of adding the "Amen" right off, Robbie added: "And please, oh God, send some good folks to take care of us. Papa said you would take care of us. Amen." And help came; for a few moments later, some half dozen rescuers on the opposite shore, saw the house moving along and calling to the children to hold on until help came, brought two small boats and took the two frightened little creatures to a place of safety.

I sat dazed and speechless while listening to their story, and then like an arrow, the thought of my lost wife came to me—I had just begun to realize it. I threw out my arms and called wildly for my wife. Just then a strange lady entered the room, and told me that it was absolutely necessary that I be very quiet. But it was evident she did not wish me to know some bad news which she seemed trying to keep away from me.

'Oh,' said I, 'you are trying to keep me from

Oh. said I, you are trying to keep me from knowing that my wife is lost! She has thrown herself into those terrible waters! Oh, save her! Somebody, save Agnes! Why do you stand there looking at me, and do not go to get Agnes? Have you no heart? Oh, my darling wife, I cannot live without you! Agnes, Agnes, come back to me! Come back to me!"

Just then, a gentle hand, warm and pleasant, was laid on my head and a soft voice said: "Harry, what in the world is the matter? I guess you are worn out watching. It is time to make the kitchen fire."

For, lo! it was all a dream! And while I had slept e wind had died down and the waters subsided.

MISS LOANTHY'S CALL.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY SARAH WARD TEMPLE.

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HE most benighted observer could tell at a glance that the wind of Miss Loanthy's destiny was blowing from the most unfavorable quar-

glance that the wind of Miss Loanthy's destiny was blowing from the most unfavorable quarter.

She had on what her roguish nephew, Harry, c alled her "Kicking Josey," and upon the tightly wound knob of hair at the top of her head a faded purple cap at perched abruptly. These signs of the times along with the snap of the deepest gray eyes, and the grim line of the energetic mouth, said to the most casual observer, "We are glum, we are belligerent, we would rather fight than eat."

Miss Loanthy's meditations usually took a verbal form, and as she looked into the fire she spoke, "I stypose I may jest set here the rest o' my natural life an' twirl my thumbs, or ef that don't suit I may turn to furrin missions, sewin'c ircles an' gossip. Humph! you don't ketch no man at no sech. He either has a ginuine Call, or else he settles down to fair, square business an' keeps a-diggin'. Yes, an' thet's what I'm agoin't to do," Miss Loanthy mused a moment, then she continued her ruminations, "I needn't hope fur no Call; it'd have to be a reg'ler ingine screech to be heerd, me bein' a woman, so I'd jest better let the idee go."

That the parting between Miss Loanthy and the hope of a Call was a hard one, the sigh that struggled up from under the "Kicking Josey" bore ample testimony.

"I settle down to fair, square business, myself, and keep diggin'. There's no use alookin' for or expectin' anything unusual in my life or work. I'll jest take to farmin'—fruit and dairy farmin'."

Having decided upon a new and energetic project to be carried out, Miss Loanthy bade farewell to the Call she had so long cherished in her breast, and felt happier than she had for many a day.

It was getting on towards spring. The old yellow hen had been heard to sing in a high, industrious tone of voice, and the gobbler was beginning to drag his wings arrogantly over the pebbled ground of Miss Loanthy's poultry-yard. Here and there a meadow lark gladdened the fresh morning air with rippling song. Yes, spring is coming, nay, has come, and Miss Loanthy's

So the "patch" was plowed and planter, and the herd of mild-eyed, deer-like cattle cropped the grass and drank the crystal water of the brook that rippled through Miss Loanthy's meadow.

It is a rainy night in autumn. Miss Loanthy sits beside her lonely fire, and from the faraway look in her eyes, memory has taken her far back into the past.

There is a limit to human forbearance, and patient as had been her girlhood's lover, Joe Gleeson had grown weary of a courtship prolonged past that of Jacob of old, and had, some years-previous to this writing, sold his homestead opposite to Miss Loanthy Bigelow's inheritance, and turned to new scenes. Beyond a rumor of his marriage to a Western farmer's daughter. Miss Bigelow had heard nothing of him.

To-night as the rain beats lonesomely on the windows, and the wind moans in the chimney like the cry of a lost soul, she thinks of him, not regretfully, but with a kind of tender reverence. He was the memory of something kind and restful and patient, and she felt herself to be a more womanly woman because he had loved her.

There is a sudden rapping of small knuckles, then a childish voice calls out:

"Please, lady, let me in."

"Law, child, what are you doin' out in the rain?"

She drew the dripping mite of humanity into the room. It was a delicate-featured girl. She raised her pathetic eyes to the kind face bending above her.

"I saw you working in your fruit garden to-day, and so I thought of asking you to come—I haven't any mother," this with a little break of the voice.

"We just moved in to-day—father'n me—and he got wet. It's give him one of his bad spells." Then the anxious treble broke down altogether, and the little creature clung about the woman's knees in wild entreaty. "Oh lady, come with me, please come."

It took but a moment to collect all the herbs, plasters, and ointments in reach of her deft hands, and feeling herself equipped for almost any kind of a spell," Miss Bigelow took the child's wet little hand, and stepped across the muddy street.

The little g

divined her presence and called to her, she stepped into the room.

"Did you call me, Joe?"

"You?"

The worn figure tried to raise itself from the improvised couch by the fire, but sank back with a groan of pain.

"Get the things in the hall. What's your name, child?"

"Loanthy."

child?"
"Loanthy."
"Oh!" There was a world of understanding in Miss Bigelow's "Oh."
She bent over the invalid with a new light in her eyes. "I've always bin expectin a Call, Joe, an' tonight I've got two of 'em."
She laid her cool hand upon the sick man's brow, "And Joe, I've come to answer 'em both."

Joe Gleeson drew the strong brown hand down and pressed it to his lips. Then he murmured in deep content, "Loanthy dear, is that you?"

ODD FACTS.

A semi-fossil egg from Madagascar has just brought \$300 in a London auction room.

One of the deepest bore-holes ever made has just been cut in Prussia, and is 6,660 feet deep.

The screw propeller of the Atlantic steamship Umbria, is 24 1-2 feet in diameter, and weighs 39 tons.

It is said that 5,280,000 tons of water are evaporated from the Mediterranean sea every hot summer day.

One hundred and fifty-six million, eight hundr and seventy-nine thousand, six hundred and twent seven cigars were made in Florida last year.

Land on the corner of 5th Ave. and 57th St., New York City, sells for \$5,000 a front foot; on lower Broadway, in corner plots, \$15,000 to \$20,000 a front foot; on government land, you can get 80 acres for nothing.

nothing.

A New Haven business man went out in a boat early in August, to bathe in Long Island Sound. While swimming, two men in a dory came up, struck him with an oar, and stunned him. When he returned to consciousness, he found himself bound hand and foot in a small schooner with his own boat in tow. His captors robbed and left him, still tied, in the anchored sloop, while they landed with all their goods—probably smuggled ones. It was two weeks before he was rescued.

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BY HARRIET BEECHER STOWE.



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214 PIECES OF MUSIC 25

John Anderson.
Keel Row Reel.
Kitty O'Neil's Jig.
Ladies' Triumph.
Lads O' Dunse.
Lady Baird.
Lady Campbell.
Lady Loudon.
Lancashire Clog.

Go to the D-Gorlitza.
Grand Pere.
Hey, Daddy.
Highland Fling.
Honey Moon.
Holl's Victory.
Imperiale.
Irish Trot.

Ap Shenkin.
Auld Lang Syne.
Barny Brallaghan.
Beau of Oak Hill.
Beaux of Albany.
Belle Canadienne.
Boulangere, La.
British Grenadiers.
Bum, Bum Galop.
Cachuca. Drummer. Drunken Sailor. Dunse Dings, A. Eight Hand Reel.

Cachuca.
Captain Keeler.
Captain Keeler.
Chorus Jig.
Circassian Circle.
Ciyde Side Lasses.
College Hornpipe.
Cotillon No. 1.
Cotillon No. 2.
Cotillon No. 3.
Cotillon No. 5.
Cotillon No. 5.
Comette. THE ACME OF DANCES 214 CONTRA DANCES, REELS, JIGS, HORNPIPES,

Cotilion No. 3.
Cotilion No. 4.
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Coquette.
Country Bumpkin.
Cushoon Dance.
Carron Volonge.
Carry Owen.
Carron Volonge.
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Arranged for the Plano or Organ. Kinloch of Kinloch.
Lady of the Lake.
Lady of the Lake.
Lady of the Lake.
Lady of Sweet Erin.
Lass of Richmond Hill.
Little Fairy Waltz.
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The German, Polish, & Spanish Dances, Galops, Waltzes, Redowas, Schottisches, &c.

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ALL FOR TWO HANDS.

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Lamp Lighter's Horopipe.
Again.
Lea Year.
Johnny's Made a Weddin' O'T.
Keep the Country Bonnie Lassie.
When Town.
My Love She's but a Lassie Yet.

May Day.
Miller of Drone.
Minuet.
Money Musk.
Monferino.

reat Britain.

Sparkling Dew Drop Sol There's Nac Luck about We Won't Go Home till Wind that Shakes the B

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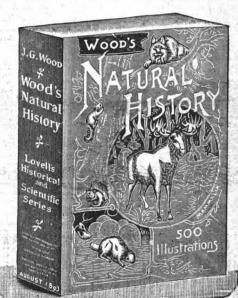
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A Plunge in Burning Oil.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY FRED C. AMBROSE.

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ET me tell you of an adventure I had in the oil country some years ago."

The speaker was Uncle.
Jack. He had been a great rover in his day, and we youngsters were never so happy as when listening to a recital of some of his many adventures.

"When I was about twenty-three years of age," continued Uncle Jack, when our attention had become thoroughly enchained."

was located in Oil City, attending to the business of some parties whose interests were identified with that locality. I was getting a good salary and was inclined to be a gay young fellow, and my habits were, I am ashamed to confess, greatly different from what they now are. I had several congenial companions amongst the sons of the oil producers, and the younger speculators, who formed the fast set of what, at that time, was one of the willdest towns in the country.

"One afternoon, acting upon the suggestion of a

what tdey inwards. I had see a body and the younger speculators, who formed the fast set of what, at that time, was one of the wildest towns in the country.

"One afternoon, acting upon the suggestion of a young fellow whose father, owned a number of oil and gas weils about five-miles up the Allegheny river, a half dozen of us indulged in a picnic in the dense forest which lined the mountainous banks of the river in the neighborhood of the weils.

"We spent the afternoon in romping and playing like a lot of school boys; climbing the lofty derricks; walking across deep guilles upon frail pipe lines; leaping, running and ducking each other in the river. Our sport was of the most reckless and boylish kind, although I blush to say that it was inspired more by the liquor with which we had supplied ourselves, than by mere animal spirits.

"Weli, we remained in the forest until the sun went down, and then made ready for the grand finale of our outing, which was to be a fish-spearing float down the river to the town. Our boat was a flat-bot-tomed scow, about fifteen feet long, two feet wide and a foot deep. Rather a frail craft to carry five half tipsy men down a swiftly running stream, which was in pices but a foot in depth and again was twenty feet to the bottom; with sharp jagged rocks rising anddenly from the water, and quick turns around and through the curving hills. A barrel almost full of crude oil sat in the middle of the scow, and just in front of it was extended a stick about a yard long, on the end of which, in a sort of basket made of twisted wire, was a lot of ravelled rope and cloth upon which was poured the crude oil, which, being ignited, gave forth a vivid flame, illuminating the surroundings for a considerable distance. This attachment was called a 'jack,' and one young fellow, Frank Loskler, by name, was detailed to 'feed the jack,' that is, to pour with a long handled dipper, the crude oil upon the rope, etc.

"The rest of us were provided with long spears with which attracted by the bright flame c

water.
"The ride was a grand
The moon shone "The ride was a gland one. The moon shone brightly, casting a solemn light over the hills and upon the rippling water, while the glaring red or curburning torch gave to everything a weird, spectacular appearance, bring out the rocks and trees with a vivid distinctness, and mirroring them in the water, which raced on like a stream of molten free.

in the water, which faced on like a stream of motion fire.

"When we started upon our cruise we made the air ring with our shouts, and songs, and langhter; but, as we floated along, the utter quiek of Nature, that deep stillness which settles upon the wilderness when night fails, subdued our boisterousness. The solemn grandeus of the time and place affected each of us. I know I began to feel heartily ashamed of myself for the part I had taken in the day's carousal, and was just wishing myself well away from my companions, when a terrible accident occurred.

"As I have said, Frank Loskler was feeding the jack." In performing that operation it was necessary, after emptying the dipper upon the torch, to thrust it into the water to smother the fire which would cling to it, before putting it back into the oil. Poor Frank he had permitted the flame to die down to a spark, when someone called to him for more light. He poured a dipper full of the crude oil upon the torch and then, unthinkingly, thrust it, ablaze as it was, into the oil. A column of fire leaped high into the air.

"All was confusion."

the torch and then, unthinkingly, thrust it, ablaze as it was, into the oil. A column of fire leaped high into the air.

"All was confusion.
"In our consternation the boat was tilted, Frank lost his balance and plunged headlong into the water; the barrel tipped over, throwing the boat. The flery liquid spread upon the face of the stream and burned flercely.

"We were in deep water and I struck out, swimming up stream beneath the surface until I bumped against a rock upon which I climbed.
"It was as light as day, and I now discovered two of my companions struggling in the water near me. Although half dead with fright and all but exhausted by my efforts to save myself, I slipped off the rock and assisted first one and then the other to safety.
"We soon descried another of the party clinging to one end of the boat, the other end of which was burning. He drifted onto a shoal where he stood in security, but suffering terribly from the burns he had received.

"We could see nothing of poor Frank; no answer came to our cries and calls, and then the horrible conviction was forced upon us that he was dead. And, oh! the horror of such a death! We were struck dumb with awe! My blood almost froze at the thought of the poor fellow, cut off without warning or preparation; sent to his account with all his

struck dumb with awe! My blood almost froze at the thought of the poor fellow, cut off without warning or preparation; sent to his account with all his imperfections upon his head.

"A pumper who was working at a well near the scene of our accident, put out in a boat and took us to land. I was the only uninjured one of the party. The others were more or less severely burned; the one who had clung to the boat was in an awful condition; his face was disfigured for life.

"Frank's body, charred and blackened, was found the next day upon a little patch of sandy island where it had drifted.

"You will undoubtedly believe me, my boys," said Uncle Jack in conclusion, "when I tell you that from that night to this no drop of liquor has passed my lips; and if ever in the future I should be tempted to drink, the remembrance of that awful night would make me pause and thrust the stuff away."

Another terrible cyclone swept up the Atlantic coast on August 28th and 29th, sweeping away millions of dollars worth of property, and leaving nearly 1,000 people dead in its wake. The city of searly 1,000 people dead in its wake. The city of Savannah alone lost forty people and ten millions of dollars worth of property. Port Royal, S. C., was almost demolished, several hundred negroes being drowned in their shanties by a tidal wave, and many hundreds more being rendered homeless. The streets of Charlestown and many of the coast cities were inundated, nival stores were demolished, buildings were thrown down and swept away, railroads torn ap, and the coast for many miles was strewn with wreckage. So far it has been impossible to correctly estimate the damage or the loss of life.

CHEROKEE HIGH TEA.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY GEO. E. FOSTER.

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UNAH," said a white resident in the Cherokee town which I visited last summer, to a fair Cherokee maid, "my friend here would like to be able to tell his people how well a Cherokee girl can serve an evening meal. Will you yourself spread a table for him to-night?"

"Bring the stranger to our cabin," said-the Indian maid, "and I will spread the feast."

And so at the sum's setting, my friend took me to the cabin at the outskirts of the village. It was built of logs: it will not be to the cabin at the outskirts of the village. It was prettily furnished, among the furnishings being a sewing machine and a cabinet organ.

"A sewing machine and a cabinet organ." the disbeliever in Indian capabilities exclaims.

Yes, and the Chief recently sent me the census roll of his people, and in it I find that there are 1,689 sewing machines in use by these Cherokee maidens, and that they play on 91 planos and 441 cabinet organs. Again the Cherokee youths are great musicians. I was invited to a room where there were eleven persons, and I was the only one present who could not play the violin.

As we approached the cabin, no one but the father of the maid was visible, and he was without the door. According to their method of courtesy, he pointed us to the best room of the cabin, but he did not enter. For half an hour he sat alone, and then the mother came in and bowing said: "How-dy," them in a few moments withdrew.

Another fitteen minutes passed and then the woung maiden announced tea.

There is a peculiarity in the cabins of the full blooded Indians. No two rooms are connected by doors. To get from one room to another, one must go outside. So we left the sitting-room, went out of doors and entered another room, where was spread a very abundant feast. The table was made of rude boards covered with a whith cloth; it was too high and the seats were too low, so that the table came in close proximity to our chins. But the banquet was all cooked by the fair Indian minamid—bread, pies, cake, tea, coffee, and meats of various kinds. W



A COLUMN OF FIRE LEAPED HIGH INTO THE AIR.

way of showing greatest respect to their guests. They would have thought themselves lacking in true courtesy had they seated themselves at the table with us. When my friend and myself had finished the well-cooked meal, we were led again outside, and to the room that we had first entered, and there myself and friend again sat alone, while the family at each their supper that they gathered about the great fire-place. And then the pipes were lighted and their supper that they gathered about the great fire-place. And then the pipes were lighted and the talk began. The Indian sat first in the circle; we, as guests, had the center in front of the fire. Whenever conversation lagged, the old Indian left the room and brought in a stock of wood and placed it on the fire, and this went on until there was no room for more in the great fire-place. And even then, every time the host could not think of a new subject, he at once retired to the wood-pile and a four foot stick of wood was brought in and piled up on one side of the hearth. And then such music as our Indian maid drew forth from the cabinet organ. These Cherokees are natural musicians, and it is said, that with no previous instruction many can take a sheet of music and at once play it passably well. When I asked of Prof. Dolgouruki how this could be, he replied:

"With the Cherokees, music is an intuition."

Before leaving the residence the subject of my recent book on the Cherokee Indians came up, and the old Indian, I noticed, went quickly from the room.

"Gone for a mighty big thought," I mused to my-self, for I had by that time found that his wood-pile was his source of inspiration. He soon came back with the largest back-log he could find, and said:

"Your book was a heap good book, but you will do better next time."

What he meant was, that having spent a week among the people, I could tell of their present condition in a way that I could not have done, had I not visited them in their homes.

"The Indian thought he had paid you a big compliment," said Harvard

way implied a lack choght that his remark in any I left the cabin with the warmest grasp of the hand from every member of the family. One of the most pleasing reminiscences of my sojourn in this Indian land was this "High Tea" given to myself and friend with all the quaint courtesy of the Cherokee style. When I think of the well-cooked food, as prepared by that Cherokee girl, I wish that some of our white maidens could go to her for instruction in the culinary art.

ODD AND OTHERWISE.

Chicago has 232 millionaires. The King of Servia is only 17 Glass paper is made in Japan. America has 413 kinds of trees A cow's tongue has 35,000 bulbs. A ton of gold is worth \$602,799.21. Queen Victoria has forty pet dogs. There are 3,000 Portugese in Boston. There are 3,000 languages in the world. Mr. Gladstone has kept 60,000 old letters. The Sultan of Turkey has only 167 wiver. There are 8,000 saloons in New York City. A paper chimney has been built in Breslau. There are 1,400,000 paupers in Great Britain. There are 242 life-saving stations in America. Edison, the electrical genius, is a vegetarian. Telephones are now used by deep water divers. Canadian fisheries yielded \$13,941,171 last year. Niagara Falls has a force of 16,000 horse-power

The White House has cost Uncle Sam \$2,232,000.

Saltpetre is made from cotton-seed in Arkansas. The clear sun shone 320 days in Denver last year. Railroads cover 175,223 miles in the United States. There are 37,000 women telegraphers in this coun-

Father Sam has 9,144,590 men available for military duty. This year's cotton crop will be the largest in many

Seventy million people in Europe wear wooden shoes.

Egypt sends out 50,000 ounces of rose essence yearly. England has won 82 per cent of the battles she has

Europe makes 1,850,000 square yards of mirrors annually.

An annular eclipse of the sun falls on October eighth.

We break and lose 300,000,000 needles a year in this country. There are eighteen George Washingtons in Richmond, Va.

The Simplon Tunnel under the Alps will be 12 1-2 miles long.

Needle-makers and file-makers are most liable to consumption.

Eighty million eggs are used every year in France to clarify wine.

Men weigh in England, on an average, 155 pounds, and worms 122

The Emperor of Germany receives an average of 500 letters a day.

Twenty-six cities in this country have over 100,000 inhabitants apiece.

A scientist calculates that there are 750,000 kinds of insects in the world.

A 21 ounce nugget of gold worth \$400 was found this summer in Ontario.

The Straits of Gibraltar are soon to be crossed by an aluminum bridge.

A watch ticks 157,680,000 times a year and the wheels travel 3,558 3-4 miles.

Up to last June this country had coined \$6,578,688.76 worth of bronze cents.

The Merrimac river moves more machinery than any other stream in the world.

Five hundred and ten bushels of potatoes to the acre is reported from Montana. Chinese women do up their hair once a month, and sleep with their heads in boxes.

A NEW CURE FOR ASTHMA.

A NEW CURE FOR ASTHMA.

Medical science at last reports a positive cure for Asthma in the Kola plant, found on the Congo river, West Africa. So great is their faith in its wonderful curative powers, the Kola Importing Co., 1164 Broadway, New York, are sending out large trial cases of the Kola Compound free to all sufferers from Asthma. Send your name and address on postal card, and they will send you a trial case by mail free.

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The Reliable Book of Outdoor Games, Famous Comic Recitations, One Hundred and Fifty-six Popular Songs, Mesmerism and Clairvoyance, The Mystic Oracle.

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Duchass; Bien Whitury; Wedding, by Mrs. Henry Wood; Under
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Agnés Pieming; The Lady of Glenwith Grange, by Wilkie Collins; Huster Quatermain's Story, by Rider Baggard; The ScriPaust, by Sylvanus Cobb, Jr.; Eve Holly's Heart, by Mary Kyle
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etor, etc., etc., etc.

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rds and music are given. The following is a partial list of the atents of the book; Comrades, Ts-ra-ra Boom-de-sy, Little ther Malden, Little Annie Rooney, I Whiatle and Wait for tle, Stop dat Knocking, Over the Garden Wall, Twickenham rry, Won't You Tell Me Why, Robin? Nancy Lee, Larboard Try, Won't You Tell Me Why, Robin? Nancy Lee, Larboard Try, The Man in the Moon is Looking, Barney, Leave the last Alone. The Batter So. Work. Nigrers, Work, Baby Mine, We'd Better Bide a Wee, Bonnle Doon, Killancey, Let me Dream Agala, When Red Leaves Fall, Widow in a Cottage by the Sea, Old Zip Coon, Maggie's Secret, and 130 others, making a veritable treasury of the world's popular songs.

tressury of the world's popular songs.

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FAMOUS COMUC RECIPTATIONS.—This book contains one nunitread and ten of the very best humorous recitations, embracing recitations in the Negro, Yankes, Irish and Dutch dislects, both in prose and verse, as well as humorous compositions of every kind and character. Among its contents are:

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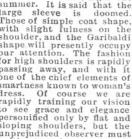
ASHIONS for this month are beginning to take on a more dewarmth and comfort are more seriously considered than tery hand there is so wide a divergence, as indicated at present, that she who cannot be suited adopt the Greek costume—as the she was cannot be suited and there is so wide a divergence, as indicated at present, that she who cannot be suited and there is so wide a divergence, as indicated at present, that she who cannot be suited and the forek costume—as the she was seen in a Boston shop with the she will be great the standard of the Greek costume—as the she was seen in a Boston shop with the she will be great to grow as well as the great that the inconspicuous is a laways the scarlet or green gloves, unless they match evening dress on special occasions, no matter what the extremes of Inshion may call for the she will be great the she will be great to grow that the inconspicuous she will be great to grow the she will be great the she will be great



HER NEW FUR CAPE.

selecting a fur cape to get one that is not too pronounced in style. Select the fur for its wearing qualities. If you can afford a high-priced cape, nothing is finer than seal or mink; and yet there is a question if it is worth while to put so much money into the expensive varieties of fur, since the styles do change every year. A full-fashioned seal-skin sack keeps to nearly the same shape year after year, but everything else changes. A black hare or coney cape often looks well for a couple of seasons, and has the advantage of being comparatively inexpensive. It is not positively necessary (thank fortune!) that one's shoulder cape should be of fur. There are pretty astrachan and chinchilla cloths that make up into extremely serviceable capes. The heavy wool plushes also have a dressy effect and if made at home, by the aid of a pattern, and lined with old silk, need not be very expensive. For a young girl the light cloakings make very becoming shoulder capes; and for all ages of womankind nothing is so convenient in the line of wraps as the shoulder capes which may be easily slipped on or off, and which protect the back and shoulders from drafts and chill-





propriately dressed, while she makes over hers and his old things for the children.

It is quite an art to know how to do this; but it is an art which may be acquired by any and all

For grown up people there is something new in cloaks, also, as seen by our fashion correspondent in New York, too late for illustration in this issue; but next month we shall hope to tell you all about them.

There are some new styles in sleeves this fall. The one which we present is trimmed with ruffles from the elbow to the shoulder, and, it range as it may seem, is carried shoulder, and, it range as it may seem, is carried shoulder, and, it ruffled shoulders to the high ruffled shoulders with ruffled shoulders with slight fulness on the shoulders, and the Garibaldi shape will presently occupy our attention. The fashion for high shoulders is rapidly passing away, and with it one of the chief elements of smartness known to woman's dress. Of course we are rapidly training our vision to see grace and elegance personified only by flat and sloping shoulders, but the unprejudiced observer must admit that women without much style of their own to carry it off appear undeniably dowdy in the 1830 fashions. It requires a pretty woman to be quaint and picturesque. A plain one is equal to tailor-made trimness and style. The close part on the forearm is often covered with a succession of folds of two materials, one the dress fabric, the other the trimming. Velvet and satin remain the favorite trimmings. Bayadere silks and satins are much used as sleeves for wool dresses. Narrow fur bands are also used. Also passementeries, often worked, like lace. Comport readers will, however, remember that a plain and inconspicuous style is always the best in sleeves as well as other parts of the gown. The flaring bell-skirt is still worn, and we present our readers with a new way of trimming it, in which the braid or ribbon is not cut. The fillustration shows a dress of serge or silk homespun, trimmed with black ribbon. This is set on in such a way that it

French plaids. Decidedly the most elegant are the bengalines or poplins, in large plaids, red, blue and green, cross-ed with bars



pinds, red, blue
and green, crossed with bars
of yellow silk, and with seeds of gold-colored
silk thread all over the surface. These are
among the most expensive of the plaids but
they require no trimming, so that the real cost
is not so great after all.
Our foreign correspondent informs us that
there is still in Paris a tendency to reduce the
amplitude of skirts, and furthermore that the
best dressmakers do not employ stiff facings of
hair cloth, buckram or crinoline in skirts.

The new stuffs manufactured for autumn and
winter, both in woolens and silks, are of the
supple clinging quality which lends itself so
well to natural folds that the announcement
made in some quarters seems quite credible,
that we are to return to double skirts, or, at
least, to skirts slightly draped.

There was never a season when ribbons
played so important a part in the dress question. Worth, the great Parisian dressmaker,
makes entire dresses of them. The foundation
is a kind of grenadine laid in deep plaits, with
a ribbon down each plait ending in a loop and
end at the foot. The waist may be made of
either lengthwise or crosswise strips of ribbon,
according as a woman is long or short waisted,
and has in either case a ruche or ribbon around
the shoulders. Braid is employed in place of
ribbon on substantial woolens, such as serges,
cheviots and cloths, and is set on in spaced
rows of the wider kinds, or in closer rows of
narrow widths. Some simple tailor gowns have
three or four rows of braid 30 inches above the
lower edge where the folds of the skirt separlower edge where the folds of the skirt separ-

narrow widths. Some simple tailor gowns have three or four rows of braid 30 inches above the lower edge where the folds of the skirt separate.

Fabrics for autumn cloaks and jackets are imported in nasturtium brown, petunia, silver, imperial Russian green, friars' gray, and admiral blue. Some of the cloths have a bourette stripe raised in rough lines on their smooth surface, and others are crossed with netted wool meshed in camel's hair.

The shapes of some of the hats are more than a little eccentric, and among the new models many may be picked out which are certain forerunners of the hats that will, a month or two hence, be seen in felt and velvet. The new low and flat crowned hats in Italian straw with the wide open brim in front, and worn far back on the head to fall over the nape of the neck, are reproduced in felt, and promise to be becoming. There is another hat, called the Harlequin, which is a mere ridge across the top of the head with a big velvet bow in front and a ridge of flowers at the back. And there are antiquated shapes, like the cottage bonnets of many years ago, with a large bow of ribbon in front, and strings to match. It is too early yet, however, to predict anything certain in regard to hats or bonnets for the winter.

Of course every woman is interested in the way to do her hair. One of the latest fashions is to wear ribbon on the head in some shape. One of the ways in which it is worn is a satin bow tied in the Alsatian shape, such as was popular ten years ago. These bows are made of ribbon in all colors, wide black velvet being the softest and most elegant for day wear. The hair must be plaited loosely, then turned back upon the head, the end, with the wide Alsatian bow fastening on top of the head. Another fashion is to tie satin ribbon in the shape known as "donkey ears," and wear it at the side of the knot of hair which is done up on the top of the head. Sometimes they are pinned on with a small jeweled stick-pin. Of narrow ribbon are used and are pretty for young girls with the hair

young girls who wear their hair in a simple knot behind pass a ribbon around the knot and tie it in a bow at the left side.

Eton jackets are still worn, but are really becoming to women with small waists and small hips, and look better on short women than tall. New skirts slope outward round the hem, but are nearly tight-fitting at the hips. The latest fashion is to button them down the side of the front.

are nearly tight-fitting at the hips. The latest fashion is to button them down the side of the front.

With these hints, you can easily remodel last winter's gown so that it will be quite the proper thing for the coming season. Supposing you have a plain bell-skirt, or one with narrow foot-trimming. If the latter, rip off the trimming and sponge and press the skirt; then with braid or ribbon you can trim it in spiral shape according to our illustration, which will give it an entirely fresh appearance. If the basque was made with coat-tails, or if it came pretty well over the hips, cut it off just below the waist-line, or even with it, with a very slight point at the back. Finish it nicely around the bottom. Then if you have pieces enough of the goods edged with ribbon. If, however, you have no pieces, make the puffs and ruffle of plain silk to match the ribbon.

And there you are with your new winter gown.

HINTS FOR WOMEN.

Vinegar will remove lime from carnets. Bags of lavender will keep moths away. Use a damp cloth for dusting furniture.

Scald milk-pans and pitchers once a day. Soap should not be allowed to lie in the water.

Thin pine shavings make a good hammock pillow. To cool off a hot oven, set a pan of cold water in it. Draw paper bags over cans of fruit to shut out the light.

Powdered alum mixed with white of an egg will remove a sty.

Always keep the molasses jug corked and the sugar box covered. Baking soda mixed with brick dust will clean knives beautifully.

Turpentine, rubbed on grease spots with a cloth, will remove them.

Let raisins stand 15 minutes in hot water before seeding them. Weak alum water will strengthen the eyes if bathed earefully in it.

An ounce of alum in a hogshead of putrid water will purify it in a few hours.

Half a teaspoonful of baking soda in a gallon of hard water will render it soft.

Covers of lard pails are useful to put under pots and pans when the stove is too hot.

To keep the juice in a berry pie, pin a strip of cot-ton cloth around the edge while baking. Never throw away food that can be warmed over. Some things are better for a second cooking.

The juice of one lemon in five cents worth of glycerine and a little rose water will whiten the skin. A spoonful of chloride of lime in a quart of water and strained will remove middew from cloth dipped in it.

Wash oil-cloths once a month in "skim-milk," and rub once in three months with linseed oil. Never use soapsuds on them.



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& Co., Burlington, Vt.



WRITTEN FOR COMPORT BY NEITH BOYCE.

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ICK CAVERLY was whistling softly as he moved about the one bare room of his little cabin, but there was no jubilance in the strain. Yet Dick was making his toilet for a dinnerand dinner-parties were rare up on San

Luis. This one to be sure was but a stag-party of two, and moreover it was a farewell, since his prospective host was to leave the camp on the next morning's stage. Travers was the only man on the mountain with whom Dick could fraternize. Therefore he was melancholy even with the prospect before him of Travers' chiticoncarne, upon the strength of which the latter claimed for himself the title of the best cook on the mountain. Caverly had finished shaving—an extra touch in honor of the event—and now he pulled on his corduroy coat and surveyed as much of his picturesquely-clad six-feet-two of brawn as the small cracked mirror on the wall would accommodate.

Suddenly across the pale square of the wine.

would accommodate.

Suddenly across the pale square of the window flashed a shadow. A moment later it darkened the doorway. Caverly wheeled about sharply as a man sprang into the cabin and slamming the door, shot the heavy bolt in the socket. Instantly the small room was almost dark.

socket. Instantly the small room was almost dark.
"Who's that?" demanded Caverly, backing toward the shelf where his revolver lay.
Breathing heavily like a hunted animal, the man came a few steps nearer and Caverly recognized one of the Mexican hands at the lumber-mill.
"Juan Valera! What's the matter—are you loca?"

The Mexican shook his head, staggered side-ays and leaned against the wall, panting for

"No, senor, no! Don't let them take me! Por el amar de Dios!"

el amar de Dios!"

Caverly pushed forward the only chair in the room and stood silent for a moment, his finger on the trigger of his revolver, and his eyes on Valera, who had collapsed limply into the seat. "Now, Valera, if you've got your breath, tell me what the trouble is. What have you done?" "Nothing, senor—I swear by the blessed Virgin!"

"Nothing, senor—I swear by the blessed Virgin!"
In the faint light from the window the Mexican's face showed ghastly white with terror. "Hear that! They're coming! O. Senor Richards, help me, hide me somewhere!"
"Nonsense, it's the wind in the pine trees," said Caverly, exasperated by the man's cowardice. "Can't you—"
He paused suddenly and stood alert, listening. Was that the murmar of the pines, or was it the trampling of feet in the dry needles which carpet the forest? Valera too caught the sound and got to his feet. A shout outside was echoed by his stifled cry of terror as he started toward Caverly.
"Senor, they'll hang me! I didn't kill him, I swear to you! O my wife, my Santuzza! and my poor little Pedrot. Ah—"
There was the red flash of a lantern and a rush of feet past the yindow, and then a sharp rap on the door.
"Mr. Caverly! are you here?" cried a rough voice.
"Senor, don't let them in!" cried Valera as

voice.
"Senor, don't let them in!" cried Valera as
Caverly moved past him.
"Be still." I'm going to open the door and see
what these men want. I won't let them hurt
you unless you deserve it. Sabe that? Then
shot np.

you unless you deserve it. Saoe that: Then shut up."
With this Caverly shot the bolt and flung the door open. A murmur of surprise greeted him from the dozen men dimly visible in the red light of the lanterns outside.
"What, you here? We didn't see any light and thought—"
"What's the matter?" demanded Caverly.
"A man's been killed and we're after the fellow that done it!" said one of the foremost hoarsely.

hoarsely. "Who's killed?"

"Travers."

"My God!" Caverly caught at the door-casing. "It can't be!"

For an instant his brain reeled. He leaned against the side of the door, hearing dimly, as in a confused dream, the voices of the men

around him.

"— Juan Valera," some one was saying when he pulled himself together. "We were close on his trail and we know he's here. Bring him out, Caverly. We'll show the greaser that a white man—"the speaker shook the lariat which was coiled about his arm.
"Are you sure he did it?" asked Caverly, strangely calm.



"Sure? Of course we are. Wasn't his knife lying in the blood by poor Travers when we found him?" found him?"
"Was he dead?" here Caverly's voice trembled slightly.
"No, he isn't dead, but Doc says—"

"Not dead? Why in Heaven's name didn't you tell me? I must go. Johnson, don't hang Valera till you're dead sure he deserves it. Lock him up and then if—if Travers—"

"Doc says he can't live," said Johnson doggedly. "And we propose to finish the job while we're about it. We ain't the men to tramp six miles through the woods for nothing. Don't bother us, Mr. Caverly. Go on and see your friend and let us alone."

"I won't let you murder a defenseless man," said Caverly doggedly. "I promised to protect him and I will. You can take him and guard him till he's proved guilty—"

"He's proved guilty now!" shouted another man. "Stand, aside or it'll be the worse for you!"

Caverly knew the fierce temper of these men

you!"

Caverly knew the fierce temper of these men and their ill-feeling toward the Mexicans, and he saw that both were now exasperated to a dangerous pitch. But he could not desert Valera.

"You connect the same of the worse for the worse for the men and their ill-feeling toward the men and the same of the worse for the w

"You cannot take him unless you promise me not to harm him now," he said.
"How're you going to help yourself?" jeered one of the men.
"I advise you not to try it. "I'll do for one of you anyway and you'll have to kill me first!" cried Caverly recklessly. His blood was thoroughly up. Every muscle and sinew in his magnificent body was tense with resolution.
The angry crowd paused a moment. This was considerably more than they had bargained for. Suddenly Johnson dropped the coiled lariat from his arm and stepped forward.
"Come on, boys, let's end this!" he cried. Caverly measured with a glance the heavy frame of his advancing adversary. He saw that the man meant to match physical force with him. The weapon in his hand was not natural to him. He thrust it into his belt and stepped to the ground, feeling the old exultant confidence in his tried strength and skill sweep over him. Johnson was an inch shorter than himself, massively built and, as he knew, of enormons strength.
"Fair play—one at a time!" he cried. At the same moment Johnson sprang forward and his right arm shot out like a flash. Caverly parried and in his turn lunged but Johnson ducked under his arm and the two men clinched. For some moments they struggled, almost motionless, so evenly were they matched. Suddenly Johnson, too impatient to feint, stooped and shot forward, his arms low down to get his favorite hold. But at that instant the half. Nelson of the college gymnasium came into play against him. There was a half-turn of Caverly's body, a wrench forward, and Johnson, lifted clear from his feet, was whirled on a pivot and crashed full-length on the ground. Stunned by the terrible shock for some moments he lay motionless.
"Any of the rest of you want to try it?" demanded Caverly, breathing hard. In an instant he saw from the expression of the men's faces that the victory was gained. Johnson had been the ring-leader and his discomfure had moment large part of the men's faces that the victory was gained. Johnson had been the ring-leader and his discom

"Is he asleep—can I see nim:

"Yes, you can see him. Nothing'll hurt him
now."

Caverly went up to the cot and stooped over
it with bated breath. There was a slight movement of Travers' head and his eyes half opened.

"Travers, old fellow!" whispered Caverly.
The dying man smiled faintly and nodded.
Caverly dropped on his knees beside the cot.

"How did this happen?" he groaned between
his teeth. ',Who did it, Travers?"

"Nothing—accident," said Travers, faintly.

"No, it wasn't! The men are after Juan
Valera. They swear he did it—"

"No," said Travers. A spasm of pain contracted his face.

"Who was it? Tell me, or they'll hang him."
Travers bit his lip. "Santuzza," he murmured. "They won't hurt hee, will they?"

"Santuzza!" broke from Caverly's lips.

"It's all my fault—I've been a fool, Dick,"
whispered the dying man.
Caverly rose and looked down on the white
face, with an expression half of accusation,
half of anguished pity.

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Fifteenth
Twentieth
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Fortieth
Fiftieth
Seventy ortieth iftieth eventy-fifth

ST. VITUS DANCE. One bottle Dr.M.M. Fenner's Speci-fic always cures. Circular with cures. Fredonia, N.Y.

A woman in Oakland, Illinois, discovered a rattle-snake nestled close to her baby in its cradle. Creep-ing stealthily up she seized it by the tail and hurled it to the floor. Then with her husband's pistol she shot and killed it, just as it was going to strike her with its fangs.

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BOX OF FOOD.

"It may seem wonderful," writes Joseph Paquin of Swanton, Vt., "but it is a fact that my wife has actually gained five pounds of flesh from taking only one box of Oxien; it is certainly a most wonderful remedy."

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We have just imported thousands of Crochet Sets, they contain 3 yegetable ivory and steel crochet hooks different sizes, coming in a screw top wooden case; these sets are what every lady wants in her work basket or for pocket companion. One hook sells for loc. at stores, but The Publishers of Comport, Augusta, Maine, desire to have all read the grand November issue and will send one of these complete sets free to all who send 4c. for mailing same together with sample copy of Comport.

WORDS OF CHEER.

We herewith print some extracts from letters such as are received every day by The Giant Oxic Co., Augusta, Maine. Any one desiring to get a sample of this Wonderful Food free should send their ad-

"I received the box of Oxien and can say it has done me a great deal of good. I have been troubled with my head for two years, caused by the Grippe. It has helped more than anything I ever took."

Mrs. J. R. Stone of Tuscaloosa, Ala., says: "Having been confined to my room for months I find Oxien has done me more good than three of the best doctors; it is surely all and more than you claim it to be, and 'worth its weight in gold."

Sept. 13, 1893, N. N. Tripp. Toledo, Ohio, writes:
"As for myself, I was in very bad shape, could not eat, sleep or work. After taking Oxien three days I felt better and have been as good as new for three months."

months."
Sept. 6, Mrs. Walter Gwinn, Sanford, Fla., says:
"Oxien is the only medicine I can take for my Dyspepsia, which I have been a great sufferer from for nearly two years, when a friend whom it had helped told me about it. I sent to Ocala for some and in a short time I felt so relieved I sent for some more."

anort time I telt so relieved I sent for some more."

Ann E. Matthews, St. Paul, S. C., August 9, 1893:

"Oxien has done me more good than all other medicines in the world put together. Since I have been taking Oxien I feel perfectly well and can go for miles. Before I commenced taking it I could not walk but a very short distance my breath was so short."

August 30, Henry Duench, Wellesley, Ont., encloses a dollar and writes:
"I cured a girl with one box of Oxien of St. Vitus Dance." Nothing did her good until she took Oxien, and that is a true statement, and I can give witness to ft. I want this box for another girl, so send it as soon as possible."

Dance. Nothing did her good until she took Oxien, and that is a true statement, and I can give witness to it. I want this box for another girl, so send it as soon as possible."

July 29th, 1893, Elizabeth Wines, Stony, Texas, says: "I have been afflicted for twenty-two years with Dropsy, Rheumatism, Heart Disease and Kidney Neuralgia. I had given up to die but there were a tew more days of sorrow allotted me, and then the Wonderful Food came to my relief and has given me strength to work for the alling, and enjoy many happy days again,"

July 19, Jeremiah Gossert, Palmyra, Pa.

"Oxien was recommended to me by Wm. Williams of near Hockersville, who cannot praise it enough as it has made him a well man after six years of suffering, and he had eight of the best physicians in Philadelphia pronounce his case hopeless. He is a well man to-day and 'Oxien did it,' he said when I asked him what cured him, and I wish to try it."

Walker Bartlett of High Mound, Ala., says in a letter dated Aug. 28, 1893: "My wife has had dropsy for over three years, it would be impossible for anyone to have it worse and live. Having tried twelve of the best doctors without avail; being obliged to raise \$500.00 on my farm and spend everything I had besides to pay the bills, you may judge how happy I am to know that a dollars worth of Oxien has done more good than a thousand dollars worth of medicine."

Sept. 6, 1893, Francis Hassett of Drewsey, Ore., says: "I have been sick for the last thirteen years with a pain in my back and stomach until I could not move or speak. I would be sick in hed for two months at a time. My husband called in many doctors, but they did not know what was the matter with me. I could not ware with me. A friend, Mrs. Hamilton, told me to use Oxien; it has helped me where other medicines." Israel Pool, West Middleburg, Ohio, says:
"I am using the second box of Oxien, and am much improved from a helpless condition to an ability to walk, wash and feed myself, which I could not do before for over six months. I rest well

Helen Harcourt, author of "Home Life in Fiorida," "Florida Fruits and How to Raise Them," etc., also editor of "Our Home Circle" in the Florida Times Union.

Aug. 17th, Helen Harcourt, Montclair, Fla.

"I have no patience with the wonderful cure-alls advertised everywhere, and but for the personal letters I received from those who had been benefited by the use of Oxien, I should have classed it under the general scornful category of 'Patent Medicine.' My own experience, however, confirms all I have read or that you claim. Worn out by overwork and anxiety as author, housekeeper and our home grove superintendent, I feel as though my brain power and energy were slipping away from me. One Box of Oxien has had so great an effect that I enclose \$1.00 for a second Box. I am beginning to feel like a new person, and must, in justice, give Oxien the credit for the good work."

Sept. 14, James M. Parsons of Pittsville, Md., writes:
"I wish to inform anyone suffering with nervous sick headaches, loss of appetite and general debility, that there is great merit in Oxien. I have been suffering for six months with the above diseases, and have spent considerable money with some very prominent doctors in Philadelphia without very satisfactory results. I continued to grow worse, and finally was compelled to resign my position as salesman for Clinton Rhodes Co., 57 W. 2nd St., Philadelphia, believing my duties entailed too great a strain upon my nervous system. I then began to work for W. M. Smith & Co., Mail and Transfer Service, 468 W. 8th St., Phil., hoping to recruit under lighter labors, but was soon compelled to abandon all and come home to Pittsville thinking my days were numbered. I had entirely lost faith in medicine, but my sister realizing my condition urgently requested me to make one more effort to regain health, and reluctantly I consented to try your Oxien Tablets. Five minutes after taking the first Lozenge I felibetter, and continued taking according to directions and have rapidly improved ever since. I have very

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The actual retail value of the patterns in this outfit as sold at any retail pattern store is over \$2.00, and while the patterns are comparatively few in number, every one is perfect, large and complete, and several of the patterns included are each actually worth more than the price of the outfit complete. The price charged for stamping either one of the tray cloth or sphasher designs in this outfit, at any store, will fully equal, if not exceed the price of this outfit. The designs are all new and desirable and are perforated on the new cheap paper used as a substitute for the expensive linen bond paper, and may be used for powder stamping 50 to 75 times each, and will give perfect satisfaction. Do not attempt to use them for wet, or paint stampling, as it will create the control of the stamping successfully, the whole sort secure in a strong case 30 GENTS each. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. One Alphabet, Imitation Chinese, 28 Letters, 2 inches high. Very handsome. Sun Flower and Cat-o'-nine-tails, 4x6 in. Design for Tray Cloth, 8x8 inches, see it-lesign, Dasies, 6 in. high. [Instration. Design for Laundry Bag, 6x8 in. Conventional Design, Crescents for Splashers, Tray Cloths, etc. Outline Girl, 13 inches high. [Instruction of the convention of the conventi HandsomeRopeSilk Design Fleur-de-Lis, 8x6 inches. Design, Acorns and Leaves, 4x4 inches. Splasher Design, 11x20 inches, very handsome.
Design for Applique, 8x9 inches, of Roses. Design for Egg Cosey.
Design, Cherries with Blossoms; Pretty for Tray Cloths, 6x9 inches. Conventional Design, Lily in Circle, very handsome, for Sofa Pillows, Chair Given free for a club of two yearly subscribers at 25 cents each. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

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Practical Electricity For Boys.

IV.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY H. EDWARD SWIFT.

Copyright, 1893, by The Gannett & Morse Concern.

ERE you are boys, with a chance to earn the money for your Christmas presents. Knowing how much you would prize another chance just now, when you are all anxious for a little extra money, I have induced the publishers of Comport to renew the special offer which you will find below. Now that school has opened again, and you will see dozens of boys and girls every day, it will be a very easy thing to get up a club. All you have to do is to show a copy of COMFORT and say that it is not only the chespest but the best paper in the country-for while it costs but 25 cents a year it has sixteen pages of original and interesting matter by the best writers of the land; and every whose attention is called to it will want it. expect you will get up some splendid clubs.

In these days of the electric light and electric there are but few boys who do not have some idea of the principle of the electric motor, or a longing to the mystery of the buzzing machine that works so easily. Since the day when a spark was first produced by a revolving disc of glass, there has always been a mysterious something that holds one spellound in the presence of any piece of mechanism that produces electricity, or is moved by the same subtle force. Many a time, when a boy, have I stood and listened to the lively tick-a-tick-tick of the telegraph sounder in some railway station, and tried to imagine the form of this power so potent with life. I have stood, too, with my ear to the telegraph pole by the roadside, and heard the monotonous hum of the wires on the cross arms, as the wind swept through them; and in my ignorance thought I heard the rapid flight of the messages as they flew by, propelled by what I was told was electricity. But when I asked what electricity was, no one seemed to know. Ask the same question, boys, of any one you meet, and see if any one really knows. At the present day we know more about it than formerly; but no one knows absolutely what it is. The electric bell and the telegraph sounder are electric motors in a way and were the first steps toward the electric motor as we know it.

Dynamos, or generators as they are termed, are machines for producing electricity by mechanical force. Practically any machine that generates electricity by mechanical means, from the large generator exhibited at the World's Fair back to the copper disc which was rotated between the poles of an electro-magnet by Faraday, may be called a dynamo. Practically, too, an electric motor is a dynamo reversed, being a machine for furnishing power and actuated by electicity generally furnished by a dynamo or an electric battery.

A great many boys have tried to build a toy steam engine with greater or less success, the great trouble being the complex machine, and the fine fitting that has to be done to make a machine that will go at all. I think I can tell you how to make an electric motor that, although roughly put together, will be capable of considerable speed and power. Don't expect that you are going to pump water for the whole farm or drive a sewing machine with it, but be satisfied if you make a machine that will go at all.

Now boys, Comport gives you another of the best chances ever offered to make a Christmas present to one of your friends, by telling just how to make this It will be necessary to have the back numbers of Comfort containing these electrical articles to fully understand this description; so all you need to do is to send to COMFORT 25 cents for a year's subscription, asking to have it begin with the Electric

Article, Part I. Why not take this time to make your friends a Christmas present by sending in a sub-scription for any one you wish to have it sent to, and have the Christmas number the first to reach them? or better still begin with June, 1893, and get all the articles on electricity. Don't delay this, for we must have them in as soon as possible.

You remember in my first paper the description I gave of the electro-magnet. Well, the first thing we need in building an electric motor is an electro-magnet, somewhat larger than the one we made for the bell. Get a piece of 1-2 inch round iron, any soft iron will do, and cut two pieces, each 33-16 inches long and cut a shoulder on each piece 3-16 of an inch long and the same in diameter as in Fig. 1. Now make

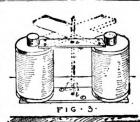
the spool heads as described in the June · Opportunition of the state of number of Comport, only have them 11-2 FIG . 1 . inches in diameter, and

make the center hole a small 1-2 inch, so they will fit the cores tightly, and drive them on as described in the case of the bell magnets. Carefully cover the tron between the heads with paper, one layer will do, and then wind the spool level full of number twenty white or green single covered cotton magnet wire, of which you will need about 3-4 of a pound to fill the two spools. Wind the wire in smooth layers similar to a spool of cotton, so as to give your machine a finished look. We must now make a back piece or yoke, of about 1.8 inch by 3 4 inch soft iron cut three inches long, and filed off smoothly on each side. Then drill two holes, just two inches apart from center to center, as shown at A. A. in Fig. 2 3-16 inch in diameter,

and two 1.8 inch ØA holes at B, B, to . . OP fasten the mag net to the base FIG-2

with. Drill a hole exactly half way between the larger holes at C, 1-8 mch in diameter and not quite through the iron. Now rivet the spools to the yoke just made, and after twisting the inside wires together as in the bell magnet, you will have a powerful electro-magnet. The se can be made of any hard wood 7-8 inch thick and 3 1-2 inches square, with the edges champhered off

Screw the electro-magnet to the center of the base with suitable sized round headed screws. piece of brass about 1-16 thick, 5-8 inch wide and 11-2 inches long and drill a 1-8 inch hole in the center, with two small holes in each end, and fasten to the top of the spools as shown in Fig. 3. This piece will make the top bearing for the shaft to run in. The shaft must be made of 1 8 inch brass or Bessemer steel rod, 31-2 inches long and tapered at one end to I fear he would not be able to retain his senses. I



iron cut a cross with arms 5-8 inch wide and each arm 1 1-2 inches long from the center. Finish up smooth with a Finish file or emery

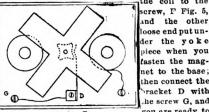
piece of 3-32 or

cloth, and drill a 1-8 inch hole in the center into which force the shaft. Put the shaft in its place and drive the cross or armature down until it will revolve very close to the end of the magnet and not touch. (See dotted lines in Fig. 3.) Be sure and have the armature tight on the shaft and ream out the holes at A and B Fig. 3, so the shaft will turn easily. Next we must make the commutator, or the armature will not revolve. Make this of 1-8 inch brass about 5-16 inch square and shaped as Fig. 4. Put this on the shaft tight by driving after the shaft

has been put through the top bear-A thin piece of spring brass will make the brush or circuit breaker. This should be very thin, 11-2 inches long and 3-16 inch wide, and FIG 4

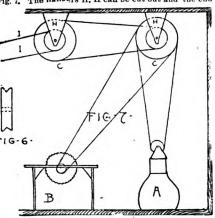


fastened to a metal post or bracket 1-2 inch high, arranged as shown in D Fig. 5. The spring is bent as in the cut so not to touch the commutator until it is turned slightly by the hand; then the magnet receives the current from the battery and pulls the armature around until directly over the spools, and then the circuit will be broken again at the commutator, and so on until you have the motor running at its utmost speed. Connect one of the wires from the coil to the



racket D with he screw G, and you are ready to connect with the battery. You may find it will take considerable experimenting to adjust the spring to get the best speed. But patience and a little ingenuity will accomplish the work and you will soon be able to regulate the speed as you wish. end of the shaft above the armature a small pulley can be placed with which to drive miniature saw mills, and funny freaks that any smart boy can de

vise from paper or cardboard. One of the easiest arrangements to make is a miniature machine shop. Use for a main shaft an ordinary knitting needle, and make the hangers, or the bearings as they are called, for it to run in, of card-board. You can make the pulleys of thin pieces of wood, cutting a grove all around the edge for the belt, as in Fig. 6. Make them of different sizes for the different machines you wish to represent. The arrangement will be something like Fig. 7. The hancers H. H can be cut out and the end



folded over and glued to the top of your miniature room, and the pulleys must be driven on tightly so as to insure the whole shaft turning. I, I is the belt leading to the motor and should be made of common sewing thread. Another arrangement is the Trip Hammer. You can connect this with a belt direct to the motor. Fig. 8 represents this machine. The hammer helve A should be of wood about 1-8 of an inch square, and the wheel with the teeth B can made of a small silk spool with six pins driven in for teeth. C is the belt to the motor. will suggest a number of differen working nodels that can be used with your motor.



The battery required to run this motor is the same as described in the July Comport, and will require about three cells. Do not run the motor with these cells too long as it will kill the life of the battery they are not made for constant use.

Now bring on your friends, and you will be a here at once. Don't forget to get them to subscribe for COMFORT. I have taken a great deal of interest in noting the industry which some of our boys have shown in getting up Comfort Electric Clubs, in the towns in which they live. I am sure you must have derived considerable knowledge as well as pleasure in carrying out the work laid out, and the wide awakes have made some money in getting up clubs Keep on sending in clubs until December first, and then look for COMFORT's new series of articles, in teresting because wholly practical.

Boys, you will live to see your country home lighted by this wonderful electricity; you will have your breakfast cooked, and your room heated by the agent, and who knows but we may yet through the air by means of the same mysterious power. If Old Ben Franklin could wake up and look around upon the mighty works that are being carried on by means of electricity, he would be more thun der struck than he was when he drew the tiny spark from the clouds by the silken kite string to his hand.

trust, boys, these few papers on electricity will stimulate some of you to take up this study in earnest You will find it hard work, but you will also find pleasure in your investigations. Its wonders never cease, and you will find a conundrum to unravel at every turn. Get your friends to send in subscriptions at once, so as to have all the papers ready to refer to; otherwise you will be unable to follow me. read this offer carefully, and then go to work in earnest. I wonder who will earn the most money of all of you.

CASH FOR BOYS.

1. In order to enable every boy to study and experiment with the wonders of electricity, and to enable thim to become a bread-winner and money-maker, the Publishers of Comfort make the following extraordinary offer, which is open to BOYS ONLY, and which holds good until December 1st, 1893.

Every boy who will obtain a club of at least ten yearly subscribers to Comfort at 25 cents each—before December 1st, 1893, may keep 15 cents for each subscriber and send us the remaining 10 cents. He will thus earn \$1.50 for every club of 10 subscribers and as Comfort costs but 25 cents a year, and is the most interesting, original and instructive paper published anywhere, it is an easy thing for any live, enterprising lad to get up clubs not only of TENS and HUNDREDS, but of THOUSANDS. Get your relatives, friends, neighbors and acquaintances to hely you and write to us for free specimen copies.

2. No club of less than 10 subscribers will be received under this offer, and the names of every club must all be sent at one and the names of every club must all be sent at one and the same time; but every boy may get up as many clubs as he can, before December 1st.

3. Every club sent under this offer must be addressed Publishers of Comfort, (Electrical Departers

December 1st.
3. Every club sent under this offer must be addressed Publishers of Comfort, (Electrical Department), Augusta, Maine, and must be accompanied with the subscription money, e'ther in P. O. or express money order, postal note, registered letter or postage stamps BEFORE DECEMBER 1ST.

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